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Thursday, December 17th, 2009

Vol. 2 Issue 47

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# Old Man Winter Slams Haliburton Highlands



For story and photos see pgs. 12-13

## Matt Duchene Living the NHL Dream

Matthew Flowers  
Staff Reporter

The first third of the NHL season has past, and for Matt Duchene, the start of what could be a long, prolific hockey career. The season has been a little bit of a roller-coaster ride for Duchene so far, at least in terms of putting points on the board. For the first 20 games, goals were hard to come by despite playing with hustle and generating scoring chances. Recently, he has finally found the back of the net more often and has been scoring at a much greater pace. In an interview with the County Voice, Matt Duchene talked about how his season has gone so far, as well as his general thoughts on making it to and playing in the NHL. For Duchene, there was never a doubt growing up he wanted to be a pro hockey player.

"Since day one of playing hockey, I wanted to be in the NHL. There wasn't ever an exact time where I made it a goal. It was just always something I wanted to be."

Matt Duchene's words can summarize many hockey players' dreams of playing in the greatest hockey league in the world. The difference is that while many dream about 'wanting,' Duchene decided to just 'be.' That Duchene earned his way to the NHL would not surprise those who know his abilities and passion for the game. What was surprising was how fast he made the Colorado Avalanche every day roster as an 18 year old.

"I thought I had a good shot, because we were a little depleted at centre position," said Duchene.

Duchene cont'd... pg. 19...

## PARC Recommendation Upheld by School Board

By Liz Danielsen

"The process was difficult at times."  
(Trustee Valerie Smith)

After a year-long review, a decision on the future of the Cardiff and Wilberforce schools has finally been reached by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board. Last week, the Trustees upheld the recommendation of the Program Accomodation Review Committee and their Interim Director to keep the elementary schools open in both communities.

"We are very pleased that we came to a solution that maintained a school in each community," said Trustee Chairperson Valerie Smith. "The process was difficult at times, but we managed to keep the best interest of the students foremost in our decision-making."

This has been a long and drawn out process that included months of public consultation, creating frustration and even discord between two communities that were holding on to their schools for dear life. The efforts of the committee, along with the concerns voiced by parents and members of the public have obviously been considered carefully as both schools will remain open for now, albeit in a somewhat different format.

PARC cont'd... pg. 5...

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|                  |                                  |                              |                      |              |             |                    |                    |                 |            |              |                |                                           |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Vince Duchene*** | Troy Austen & Linda Baumgartner* | Cathy Lancia* & Shirley Rule | Tom** & Gail Tempest | Peter Brady* | Terry Carr  | Elizabeth Thompson | Marg & John Parish |                 |            |              |                |                                           |
| Ted Vasey        | Geoff Bunn                       | Ken Barry*                   | Marilyn Hawley       | Jeff Wilson  | Debra Lambe | Fred Chapple       | Denise LeBlanc     | Melanie Vigrass | Bill Kulas | Lynda Litwin | Madeline Doyle | Iona Fevreau, Rick Forget* & Mary Harnden |

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## U-Links to Study Economic Benefits of ATVs in Dysart

Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

When the Council members made their decision to allow all terrain vehicles onto their roads, Dysart et al was the last municipality in the County to do so. But Councillor Janis Parker struggled with the decision at the time, and remains unconvinced that the sport is growing sufficiently to truly benefit the local economy.

Last week Parker suggested that the municipality support a study by U-Links, previously proposed to Council through Trails and Tours, to look at the trends in ATV use across Ontario, examine the economic impact that they have in the area and provide an analysis of those trends and the economic benefits or drawbacks that result by enabling the sport. The documentation indicated that the study could also consider the impact that ATVs have on the use of the rail trail by cyclists, pedestrians and other non motorized uses of the trail.

Parker, who is on the U-Links Committee and would supervise the work, told Council, "We have talked about finding out how much the use ATV's contribute to local business and there is a local intern willing to do the research."

Reeve Murray Fearrey questioned Parker's involvement in the study, given her stated bias on the subject. While supporting the idea of a study, he also commented that the criteria had changed since ATV's are now allowed on the roads, and suggested that there should be some advantage to proceeding with the study at this point in time. Councillor Derek Knowles also asked what Parker thought Council could do with the information, once available.

Deputy Reeve Bill Davis, who believes there is a true economic benefit from ATV use in the area, commented that as the Rail Trail goes through other parts of the County, the study should be focused on the County overall. Parker argued that the study was not geared specifically towards the rail trail and that the results could be shared with other municipalities at a later date if that was the wish of Council.

CAO Tammy McKelvey advised that the Rail Trail was not the focus of the study.

Knowles suggested that the Rail Trail was an entirely separate issue, but Davis argued that it was part and parcel of the economic benefit to the municipality.

Fearrey asked if the study was already underway, and Parker responded that so far, only a few calls had been made. Fearrey felt that the Council should be very cautious in their approach to the study. Neither he nor Knowles had any desire to ruffle feathers now that the machines are legally permitted on municipal roads in the community.

Parker, however, held out, saying that she would feel better knowing exactly what the economic impact would be. She also commented that the study would go a long way to assist the municipality in developing policy on the use of ATV's in the future.

Fearrey said, "It depends on your perspective. There are two

sides to the issue and if we're to look at overall economies, there are a number of questions to be answered."

Councillor Steve Pogue jumped into the fray and said, "There's no charge for this. It's just a study to determine the economic benefits of our decision. What is the problem? This would be useful information."

After a bit more discussions, Fearrey commented that the

Council could go ahead with the study, subject to their having some dialogue on the project as it proceeds.

A resolution was passed by Council authorizing the study to proceed for the purpose of forming municipality policy. Fearrey commented that he would like to review the agreements carefully prior to their meeting the following week before actually signing them. ■

## Couple Make Another Proposal for Animal Pound

"As long as I've been at the County, it still gets tossed back to the municipalities."

Sue Bennett and Ralph Herzog from Beech Tree Farm in Gelert visited the Minden Hills Council on December 10th to propose a potential dog and cat pound. It is the second council in the county that the couple have now visited: several months ago they made a proposal to the Highlands East Council and they intend to visit the other two municipalities as soon as they can be included on their agendas.

Herzog said that they had to have buy-in from all of the municipalities, saying "we can't just go to one municipality as the costs will go through the roof." The couple had sent a written submission for consideration at a previous Minden Hills meeting, and didn't want to go into the pricing details further at this point. Herzog did say that the costs were quite high and that the pricing would be based upon the number of animals. He spoke of the challenge it would be but that everything was negotiable and that they could work it out together.

Herzog also stated that there was a definite need for the project. He added that the central location of the Beech Tree Farm was perfect to serve all the municipalities, and that his experience and qualifications made him the right person to provide the service.

Councillor Barbara Reid asked the couple if their presentation had been made to the Haliburton County Council. Herzog advised that they had sent a letter to the County and Bennett added that, while the County had recognized that their services were needed, animal control was the responsibility of the municipalities and that

it wasn't up to the County to respond.

Reid then asked, "What is the mechanism for four lower tier municipalities to cooperate together on a project." Laughter was the response and Councillor Rick Ratcliffe then asked, "Do you believe in Santa Claus?"

Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch said, "This has come up several times at the County because it's a very expensive business to build an animal pound, so it makes sense to me that this should be (dealt with) at the County level. Yet it's being tossed back at the municipalities." Murdoch agreed with earlier comments that it would be a very expensive endeavour if only one or two municipalities bought in. "As long as I've been at the County, it still gets tossed back to the municipalities and I think it has to be the municipalities on their own buying into the program."

Reid suggested the possibility of the four CAO's getting together and getting a collective opinion on this proposal in efforts of giving Herzog and Bennett and the municipality an answer. "We're hearing that some are interested and others aren't, and it would be more efficient if four people got together and made a collective recommendation to their respective Councils."

Reeve Jim McMahon said he would follow the suggestion up with the CAO but encouraged the couple to make their presentation to Algonquin Highlands and Dysart. ■

## Twelve Mile Lake Rezoning Application

Zoe Cittern

Staff Reporter

Mervin and Barbara Johnston of Blairhampton Road in Minden Hills applied on August 5th to build a residence and garden centre on a property they own located on Highway 35 near Twelve Mile Lake across from Red Umbrella Road. They want to sell landscaping and garden supplies on a seasonal basis and they currently sell limestone slabs from the property in the summer months.

However the location of the proposed business poses problems for the couple as there is a small wetland on the property which is associated with a creek which flows into Twelve Mile Lake which is a highly sensitive trout lake. Heather Sadler planning consultant said that "the official plan states that new development

shall not be permitted unless unique or special circumstances allow that development to occur. It also states that prior to the approval of the development proposal that detailed studies will be required to demonstrate that the physical features, design and citing of the development will not have an adverse effect upon the quality of the lake and the lake trout habitat."

She added that "the applicant had provided a flood plan study but hadn't provided any information respecting the impact of the proposed development on the lake." The property also is outside the boundaries of the town of Minden: non-tourism related businesses are encouraged to locate within the town with tourism related activities being encouraged to be near waterfront areas. The applicant was not present at the meeting. It appears that the project will be deferred until comments from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Ministry of Transportation regarding the proposal can be considered and that she would be writing to the applicants for further information. ■

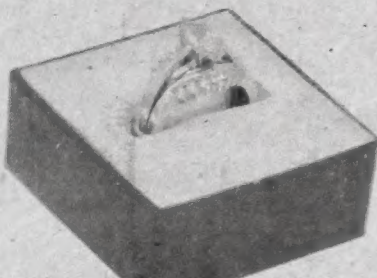
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FRIDAY



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▲ -6° ▼ -17°

SATURDAY



Partly to mostly cloudy skies

▲ -6° ▼ -12°

SUNDAY



Chance of snow showers

▲ -6° ▼ -12°

MONDAY



Cloudy with more snow showers

▲ -6° ▼ -11°

TUESDAY



Cloudy with flurries

▲ -7° ▼ -12°

WEDNESDAY



Chance of snow showers

▲ -6° ▼ -11°

**AROUND THE REGION:** We may see a few morning flurries on Thursday, with sunshine returning for the afternoon. Highs will be in the single digits below zero. Plenty of sunshine will be seen on Friday as highs will remain in the single digits below zero. More clouds than sun will be seen on Saturday while snow showers will be possible on Sunday.

Your Unofficial Lotto Numbers



12-Dec-2009

16 20 26 31 38 49  
BONUS 42

ENCORE 9384637



11-Dec-2009

01 04 05 07 22 29 48  
BONUS 13

ENCORE 9930371

TROPICAL CITIES

| City       | Today<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | City            | Today<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Otik |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Acapulco   | 31/26/pc             | 31/26/pc              | 31/26/cl                | Montego Bay     | 29/21/cl             | 29/22/ts              | 32/27/su                |
| Antigua    | 28/23/ts             | 28/23/pc              | 31/26/su                | Nassau          | 26/20/sh             | 27/21/sh              | 31/28/sh                |
| Barbados   | 30/23/pc             | 31/24/pc              | 31/27/ra                | Port au Prince  | 31/22/pc             | 31/22/pc              | 33/26/cl                |
| Bermuda    | 17/13/sh             | 18/14/cl              | 31/26/sh                | Puerto Vallarta | 31/21/su             | 31/20/su              | 29/23/na                |
| Cancun     | 28/22/ts             | 27/21/ts              | 32/26/na                | St Thomas       | 29/24/pc             | 29/24/pc              | 29/24/pc                |
| Curacao    | 31/25/su             | 32/26/pc              | 31/24/ts                | St Maarten      | 28/22/pc             | 28/23/pc              | 31/27/su                |
| Freeport   | 24/18/sh             | 26/20/ts              | 33/28/su                | San Jose, CR    | 29/22/ts             | 30/23/ts              | 31/21/ra                |
| Georgetown | 31/22/ts             | 31/23/ts              | 31/23/ts                | San Juan        | 29/23/pc             | 29/22/ts              | 29/22/su                |
| Havana     | 27/17/cl             | 28/18/ts              | 34/24/su                | San Salvador    | 31/20/pc             | 29/19/pc              | 32/22/su                |
| Key West   | 25/19/sh             | 26/20/ts              | 25/18/sh                | Santo Domingo   | 31/23/pc             | 30/22/pc              | 33/26/su                |
| Kingston   | 29/22/cl             | 30/22/ts              | 33/32/su                | Trinidad        | 31/24/su             | 31/24/pc              | 32/27/ra                |

REGIONAL CITIES

| City       | Today<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Sunday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Monday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Tuesday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Wednesday<br>Hi/Low/Otik |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bancroft   | -7/-17/pc            | -6/-16/pc             | -6/-13/cl               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -7/-12/st              | -6/-11/st                |
| Barrie     | -6/-16/pc            | -6/-16/su             | -5/-12/pc               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -6/-11/st              | -6/-11/st                |
| Dorset     | -7/-17/pc            | -6/-17/su             | -6/-13/cl               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -7/-12/st              | -6/-12/st                |
| Haliburton | -7/-17/pc            | -6/-17/su             | -6/-12/cl               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -7/-12/st              | -6/-11/st                |
| Huntsville | -7/-17/pc            | -6/-17/su             | -6/-13/cl               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -7/-12/st              | -6/-12/st                |
| Kingston   | -4/-15/pc            | -4/-15/pc             | -4/-11/pc               | -4/-11/sn             | -4/-10/sn             | -5/-10/st              | -4/-10/st                |
| Lindsay    | -6/-16/pc            | -6/-16/su             | -6/-12/pc               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -6/-11/st              | -6/-11/st                |
| Minden     | -7/-17/pc            | -6/-17/su             | -6/-12/cl               | -6/-12/sn             | -6/-11/sn             | -7/-12/st              | -6/-11/st                |
| Oshawa     | -4/-14/pc            | -3/-14/su             | -4/-11/pc               | -4/-11/sn             | -4/-9/sn              | -4/-10/st              | -4/-9/st                 |
| Ottawa     | -7/-17/cl            | -6/-15/cl             | -6/-15/cl               | -6/-15/cl             | -6/-15/st             | -7/-12/st              | -7/-13/st                |
| Toronto    | -4/-14/pc            | -3/-14/su             | -4/-11/pc               | -4/-10/sn             | -3/-9/sn              | -4/-9/st               | -3/-9/st                 |

NATIONAL CITIES

| City        | Today<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Friday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Saturday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Sunday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Monday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Tuesday<br>Hi/Low/Otik | Wednesday<br>Hi/Low/Otik |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Calgary     | 5/-5/pc              | 4/-4/su               | -1/-13/pc               | -1/-13/sn             | -2/-14/sn             | -6/-17/pc              | -7/-19/cl                |
| Edmonton    | 3/-7/pc              | 3/-7/pc               | -18/-24/cl              | -18/-24/cl            | -19/-26/cl            | -2/-28/su              | -22/-30/pc               |
| Fredericton | -7/-17/st            | -6/-15/st             | -4/-12/cl               | -4/-12/cl             | -4/-12/cl             | -4/-11/st              | -3/-11/pc                |
| Halifax     | -5/-11/st            | -4/-11/cl             | 2/-9/pc                 | 2/-9/pc               | 2/-9/pc               | 1/-9/sn                | 1/-8/pc                  |
| Montreal    | -8/-18/cl            | -6/-15/cl             | -7/-17/cl               | -7/-17/st             | -7/-17/st             | -7/-15/st              | -8/-16/st                |
| Regina      | 2/-7/cl              | 4/-6/pc               | -3/-15/cl               | -3/-15/cl             | -9/-21/pc             | -1/-21/cl              | -1/-22/cl                |
| St. John's  | 1/-7/pc              | 1/-6/mx               | 2/-7/sn                 | 2/-7/sn               | 2/-7/sn               | 1/-8/sn                | 0/-9/sn                  |
| Saskatoon   | 1/-8/cl              | 4/-6/pc               | -7/-19/cl               | -7/-19/cl             | -12/-21/cl            | -15/-24/pc             | -16/-26/cl               |
| Vancouver   | 8/6/ra               | 10/5/sh               | 6/3/sh                  | 9/3/sh                | 9/3/sh                | 9/4/sh                 | 10/4/pc                  |
| Whitehorse  | -3/-10/st            | -5/-12/sn             | -7/-13/cl               | -7/-13/cl             | -7/-13/cl             | -6/-13/st              | -7/-14/pc                |
| Winnipeg    | -2/-9/pc             | -1/-8/cl              | -2/-30/pc               | -2/-30/pc             | -18/-24/pc            | -19/-27/cl             | -19/-27/cl               |

AREA ALMANAC

| Last seven days | High | Low   | Prec.  |
|-----------------|------|-------|--------|
| Monday 12/14    | 1°C  | -1°C  | 0.3 mm |
| Sunday 12/13    | 1°C  | -6°C  | 1.8 mm |
| Saturday 12/12  | -4°C | -10°C | 0.0 mm |
| Friday 12/11    | -8°C | -10°C | 0.0 mm |
| Thursday 12/10  | -1°C | -10°C | 0.0 mm |
| Wednesday 12/9  | 2°C  | -7°C  | 0.0 mm |
| Tuesday 12/8    | -1°C | -3°C  | 2.0 mm |

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport  
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Forecasts, graphs and data  
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SUN & MOON

|             | Sunrise/set         | Moonrise/set          |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Thu. 12/17  | 7:47 a.m./4:33 p.m. | 8:52 a.m./5:35 p.m.   |
| Fri. 12/18  | 7:48 a.m./4:34 p.m. | 9:28 a.m./6:38 p.m.   |
| Sat. 12/19  | 7:48 a.m./4:34 p.m. | 9:57 a.m./7:42 p.m.   |
| Sun. 12/20  | 7:49 a.m./4:35 p.m. | 10:22 a.m./8:46 p.m.  |
| Mon. 12/21  | 7:50 a.m./4:35 p.m. | 10:43 a.m./9:48 p.m.  |
| Tues. 12/22 | 7:50 a.m./4:36 p.m. | 11:02 a.m./10:51 p.m. |
| Wed. 12/23  | 7:50 a.m./4:36 p.m. | 11:21 a.m./11:54 p.m. |

| First   | Full    | Last   | New     |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| Dec. 24 | Dec. 31 | Jan. 7 | Jan. 15 |

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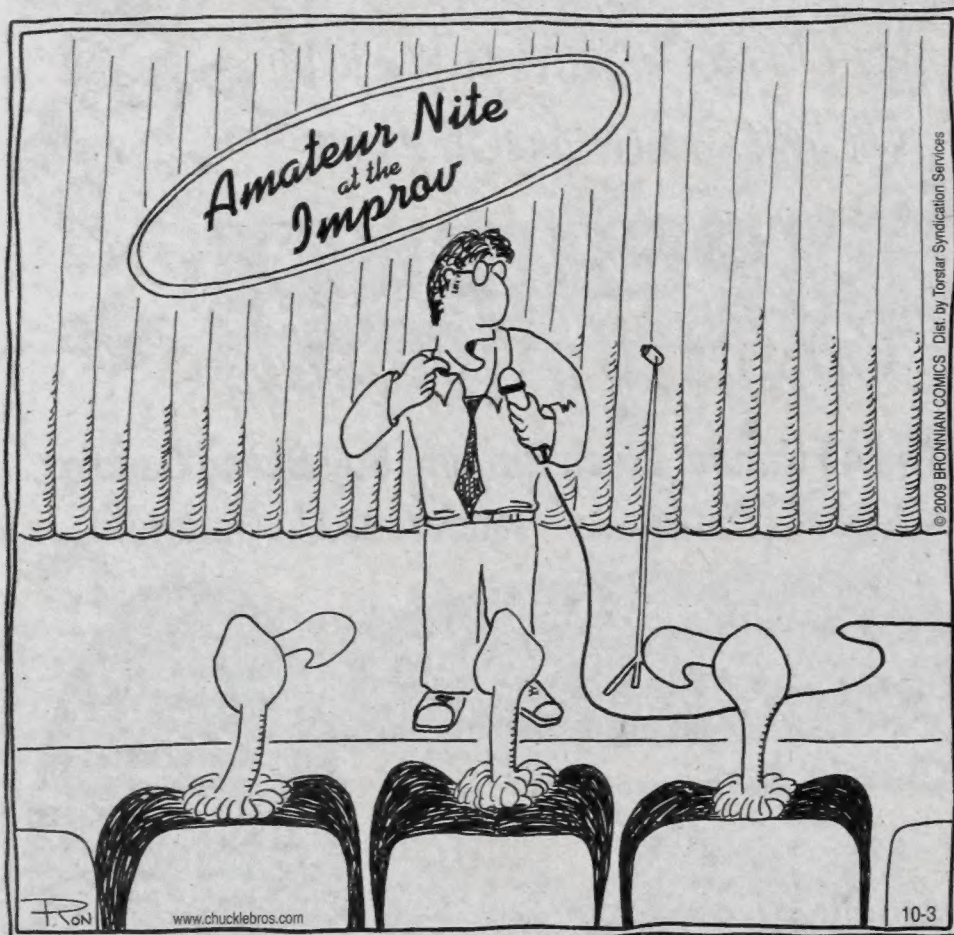


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"C'mon guys, gimme a break, I'm dyin' up here."

## Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

### "It's not just people who need your help this special time of year."

The Christmas Story tells of a baby Jesus born in a stable amidst the animals. As another Christmas approaches I really wonder how those animals have been so forgotten and neglected by our society.

Recently a young dog I had adopted from an animal shelter died prematurely from an immune system disease that didn't respond to treatment. When I got her she was a timid abused animal, but she soon responded and became a wonderful loving pet. I decided to check through some animal shelters in search of a similar dog. While waiting to look at the dog I had selected I was astounded by the incredible stupid reasons people have for turning in animals that should have spent a lifetime with their owners. "I had the dog a couple of years but he doesn't like my new boyfriend?" "I got this sheep dog for my kids and now he is trying to herd them?" "The Great Dane is too big?" "My cat had all these kittens now what am I going to do?"

Unless the shelter has a no kill policy, animals that people don't show interest in reasonable soon, and aren't rescued by animal rescue groups who foster them for adoption, are euthanized. In some shelters the kill rate is as high as 70 percent. As dogs go apparently black dogs are the least adoptable. Looking at all the wretched animals languishing in their cages prompted me to adopt two. Only proving you can't take me to a shelter, and expect a rational decision. I chose two black dogs that had been there the longest.

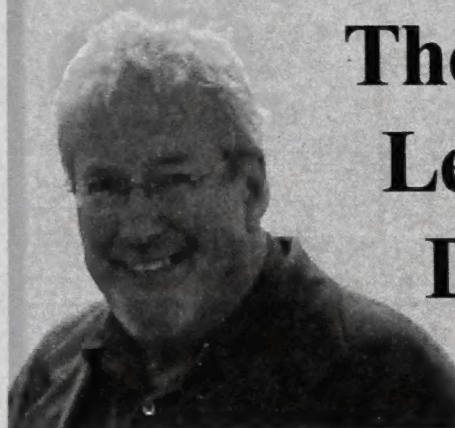
I was taught that if you want a pet, make sure you can afford it, make sure you are prepared to look after it, and be prepared to make the commitment for the life of the animal. Obviously a lot of people don't think that far ahead. It is sad to see so many dogs and cats, tossed away like so much garbage, by uncaring owners. Their only crime is being born.

This Christmas, in the spirit of the season, if you are willing to accept the responsibility of a pet, you might consider giving one of these animals a good home. Or if you can, make a donation of money or food to a shelter or animal rescue group near you. It is not just people who need your help this special time of year.

Keith Stata,  
Kinmount, ON ■

## Editorial VIEWPOINT

By Stephen Patrick



### The Right, the Left, and the Dreaded HST

Last week the Ontario Legislature, under the majority rule of Liberal Premier Dalton McGuinty, passed legislation to implement the Harmonized Sales Tax on July 1st, 2010. Some public hearings will still be held, but at this point it would take an absolute tsunami of public outrage to halt the process or to change it in any significant way.

The HST, at 13 percent, will apply to a wide range of goods and services that were previously exempt from the eight percent Provincial Sales Tax, most notably home heating oil, home renovations, and new home building. There will be off-setting income tax cuts in place this January 1st: cheques will also be mailed out to most Ontario families starting in the summer to cushion the blow. I've given the HST some faint praise in this column over the last few months, while acknowledging the real dangers to Haliburton County's construction industry. The Homebuilders' Association is adamant that the new tax will drive hundreds of thousands of dollars of business into the underground economy. Other small business owners, particularly those who provide professional services, have also let me know how badly they believe they will be affected by the HST.

The HST issue is a truly strange one in that it has the passionate support of highly regarded commentators and economists from both the right and the left. Indeed, provincial Conservative leader Tim Hudak, a right-wing Mike Harris kind of guy, has pledged to fight the tax to the bitter end, and even has allowed two members of his caucus to make utter fools of themselves by attempting to occupy others' seats in the Legislature despite being ejected by the Speaker. Hudak's position is further complicated by the fact that the HST is the brainchild of his federal Conservative buddies and ex-cabinet mates Jim Flaherty and John Baird.

Yet the likes of Maclean's Andrew Coyne and the National Post's Kelly McParland, both staunch economic conservatives, have gone out of their way to praise the new tax and laud federal Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff's strong support of the fed's initiative. On the left, the Centre for Policy Alternatives has released an in-depth study that purports to prove that, as quoted in the Toronto Star, "no group is significantly worse off or better off as a result of the province's HST plan. Assertions that this is a tax grab have no foundation in reality," according to the study's co-author, economist Ernie Lightman.

It seems to me that this strange arrangements of bedfellows is another example of the much ballyhooed "urban - rural split" in Canadian politics, with the big city elites in favour of legislation that makes perfect macro-economic sense, but causes short-term down-home pain. And perhaps it's not unlike the great divide over the long-gun registry, hated in the countryside but strongly supported by urbanites, including the vast majority of police chiefs. Where urbanites see the registry as a perfectly logical step towards controlling guns, my email box fills up with apocalyptic warnings about the registry being the first step towards total government domination, with the ultimate objective being to ban all guns, for everybody, forever. And those arguments come from friends who in most matters are actually rational! The outer fringe associate the legislation with everything from Islamic terrorism to the plot to fluoridate our water. Shades of our old friends John Birch and his buddies.

But, back to the HST: on the home front, it will be interesting to see how our local MPP, Liberal Rick Johnston, will counter the powerful arguments of our local Homebuilders when, as promised, he meets with them in the New Year. ■

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## More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

### "I know I shouldn't do that but it is the only way."

Hello: I live on HWY 118 in Tory Hill and on Sunday Dec. 13 I was still cleaning up from the snow fall. Now keep in mind that I am on a disability and a pension: I have a broken ankle with only a screw holding it. I also have a broken bone in my foot and torn tendons.

So, I am using my snow blower cleaning out the end of my driveway and my snow blower is not the greatest and doesn't blow the snow very far. I was blowing the snow away from the pile, into the road, planning to clean it up afterwards: I know I shouldn't do that but it is the only way I know how.

Anyway the belt let go and I couldn't clean it up right away, and besides I am not talking about a lot of snow. I brought the snow blower in to the garage to repair it and then the big snowplow came by and got very upset and called in a pick up truck to push all the snow back onto my driveway, even going out of their way to plow snow that wasn't on the road into the middle of my driveway and in front of the mail box: I had worked eight hours at this.

Now I give up as I just cannot do that again so I will call someone in and get them to plow for me. I will have to find the money to do that. I just want to say to the big plow truck driver Merry Christmas and all the best to you and your family and to the pick up truck driver, you should be ashamed of yourself.

It is the beginning of the 12 days of Christmas, but you just couldn't help a little and clean it up. Instead with malice in your heart you decided to block off a private driveway and God forbid something should happen to me were I to need some help. One of these two people was a lady who was yelling and screaming. It saddens me to think that this person is that unhappy with their life and their job.

Merry Christmas to all especially all the plow drivers who keep our roads clean. Job well done.

David Micallef

Tory Hill ■

## PARC Recommendation Upheld

... from pg. 1

In order to ensure that the blend of classes is limited to two grades, students in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 3 will attend school at the Cardiff Elementary School and students in Grades 4 through 8 will attend the Wilberforce school. Students who are already attending Grade 7 at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton will be allowed to remain at that school to finish their elementary education.

Interim Director of Education Warren Rosborough, who made the recommendation to the Trustees after reviewing the results of the committee's work, said that the plan allows for the best quality of education possible for all students. The PARC committee made the recommendation to keep both schools open and to split the classes, but they did not specify which grades should attend each of the schools, leaving that up to the Board.

"We know the value of community-based education and we have strived, in the face of declining enrolment, to achieve a positive result for everyone affected by the decision. Enrolment is declining in many rural areas, and Cardiff and Wilberforce are no exception. But we believe that with the support of parents who have pledged to honour the catchment areas, we will be able to maintain this solution for the foreseeable future," Rosborough said.

Because of ever declining enrolment, both schools were experiencing ever increasing challenges. To address these challenges the committee was established. To ensure the best cross representation the committee consisted of a teacher, a support staff member and a parent from each school, a municipal councillor and a representative from the business community.

Since the committee was established there have been four public meetings, many of them emotional and quite heated, where parents, business owners and other interested community members had an opportunity to express their points of view.

Principal Elaine Fournier was also very happy about the decision. "It's wonderful that both communities will be able to keep their local schools," she said.

Speaking as someone who was involved in the process right from the beginning, Fournier said, "I feel it was very fair and I was extremely happy to be part of the process as a non-voting member of the committee. It's a very positive thing to see the Board of Trustees vote favourably on the recommendation that so much hard work went into, so from a due process perspective I'm very pleased." Fournier said that all of the hard work that folks put into the committee had been received very positively.

"It was a very thoughtful group that deliberated long and hard while looking closely at all of the factors involved."

During the decision making process, some concerns were voiced about the change in bussing, particularly that some of the younger children would have to be bussed much further than they have to travel at the present time. But Fournier said, "We bus kids to both schools now. Change is hard for people in any circumstances and always requires a bit of an adjustment period, and we're not unique in that. Kids are extremely resilient. People will readjust and once that happens, things will be fine." ■

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## HALIBURTON COUNTY Recycling Guide

### Containers

#### Glass Bottles & Jars

All clear and coloured glass food and beverage containers.  
Please rinse.

**NO** drinking glasses, ceramics or china (plates, bowls, mugs, etc.), crystal, window glass, light bulbs, mirrors, pottery, Pyrex, pots and pans, cosmetic containers.



#### Plastic Containers & Lids

Clean plastic pop and water bottles, yogurt, margarine and ice cream containers, windshield washer jugs, dish soap and shampoo bottles, plastic milk jugs, ketchup bottles, peanut butter jars, laundry detergent, fabric softener and bleach bottles, P.E.T. plastic egg cartons, clear fruit and veggie containers, vitamin bottles, etc., with the numbers 1 to 7 on the bottom. Flatten pop and water bottles and replace caps.

**NO** toys, CDs, plastic barrels, vinyl siding, vinyl shower curtains, blister packs, food/stretch wrap, mini-blinds, cosmetic containers, toothpaste tubes, plastic cutlery, garden furniture, or any item that does not have numbers 1 to 7 on the bottom.

#### Metal Cans & Foil

All tin and aluminum food and beverage cans, clean aluminum foil, pie plates and take-out food trays. Please rinse and remove lids on tin cans, place inside can & pinch closed. Do not put aluminum cans inside tin ones. **NO** aerosol cans, BBQ propane cylinders (turn in on Household Hazardous Waste day), coat hangers, pots and pans, kitchen utensils, paper-backed foil (e.g. lids from take-out food), or foil laminates (e.g. foil gift wrap, potato chip bags).



#### Polystyrene (Styrofoam)

Styrofoam meat and bakery trays, egg cartons, coffee cups, fast food containers, etc.  
Please rinse.

**NO** blue or pink Styrofoam insulation, packing Styrofoam, Styrofoam peanuts or beads.



#### Plastic Bags

Plastic milk, bread, shopping and dry cleaning bags, wrap from toilet paper and paper towels, etc. Place inside one bag and tie the handles. **NO** bubble wrap, boat wrap, tarps or other large sheets of plastic film.

### Recycling Questions?

Ask your Landfill Attendant or contact your local municipal office.

We appreciate it when you take the time to **rinse out your bottles, jars and other containers** before putting them in your recycling box. This will reduce smell and insect problems for you and make life more pleasant for our sorters.

Please do not package newspapers or other "fibres" in plastic bags.

Remember — recycling is mandatory in Haliburton County.

### Fibres

#### Newspapers, Magazines & Books

Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, advertising inserts, phone books, soft cover books, and glossy flyers. Do not package in plastic bags.

**NO** waxed or foil-coated paper.



2008.01.4

#### Boxboard & Mixed Paper

Household and office paper, junk mail, envelopes, writing paper, computer paper, wrapping paper, greeting cards, cereal, detergent, tissue and shoe boxes, paper towel and toilet paper tubes, fibre egg cartons, paper grocery and shopping bags, plastic lined dog and cat food bags, etc. Staples are okay. **NO** tissues, paper towel, waxed or foil-coated paper, frozen juice cans unless metal ends have been separated (place metal in Containers bin).



#### Corrugated Cardboard

Pizza boxes (please! No pizza!), cardboard boxes, clean and flattened. Staples are okay. **NO** waxed corrugated boxes or soiled pizza boxes.

#### Tetra-Pak Boxes

Juice, milk, soup and other 'Tetra Pak' type boxes. Please rinse. **NO** straws.

#### "Gable-Top" Cartons

Polycoat (waxed) milk, juice, sugar & liquid egg cartons, etc. Please rinse and remove plastic lids.



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# Algonquin Highlands Adopts Electronic Agenda

Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

In an effort to improve public awareness and transparency, last week the Algonquin Highlands Council passed a resolution to adopt an electronic agenda format. This means that residents will soon have ready access through the Algonquin Highland's website to Council agendas and any associated documentation that is not considered to be confidential.

Even though Highlands East has been using a paperless system for some time, they have yet to tie into the system purchased by the County that is available for all municipalities in Haliburton. Dysart have held discussions and are moving toward taking this step in improved technology,

**"I'm no techie, but this is a very user friendly system."  
(Eleanor Harrison)**

but Algonquin Highlands will be the first municipality to actually take the plunge.

County CAO Jim Wilson and Administrative Assistant Clerk Angela Balle were on hand to provide details on the electronic agenda system that was tailored for County Council's use by iCompass Technologies. According to Wilson, the system has a lot of potential, and is very straight forward and easy for users to access, whether they are using dial up or high speed connections.

Balle gave a demonstration of the system and the choices for the types of viewing that are available.

Both Reeve Eleanor Harrison and Deputy Reeve Tom Gardner, who have been familiar with electronic agendas during County Council meetings, assured the other members of Council that it is very easy to adapt to and use.

In assuring those members who might be hesitant about using electronic agendas, Harrison said, "I'm no techie but this is a very user friendly system." Council members were also assured that paper agendas would be made available on request.

The system allows key reports or documents to be readily accessed during meetings or from any location that has Internet access and according to Balle is an extremely useful tool and a great reference resource for staff, not to mention for the public's information.

Minutes, agendas and by-laws from 2008 and 2009 have already been entered into the system and documents from previous years will be scanned and made accessible over time. Harrison suggested that the municipality might want to hire a student to scan material from the past, to make past documentation available as quickly as possible.

Wilson commented that a huge amount of paper has been saved by the County already and that a new module is being

added to the system in January that will allow users to highlight text and insert comments.

Balle said, "This has improved accountability, saves printing and delivery costs, reduces time and the agendas can be amended or attachments made at any time. Once prepared, Council members can have access to them immediately. Everything is based on the iCompass server and there is no need to save documents onto your computer unless desired. It also frees up a lot of space on your computer."

According to Balle the system allows municipal users to track and delegate tasks based on decisions made during meetings. The agendas can also be used in part to prepare minutes from the meetings further reducing time.

Clerk Angie Bird, who has already taken training on the system, acknowledged that there would be a bit of a learning curve for some of the department heads, but Harrison said that the advantages of the system far outweighed the disadvantages.

Balle will be working with Bird over the next few weeks to get things up and running and both women were confident that the system can be rolled out in January.

Harrison also cautioned her Council on the matter of public trust, saying, "If you have run for a position on Council you owe it to them to participate and not do other things like surfing the web or checking e-mail during Council meetings."

Necessary improvements have already been made to the Council Chambers and agenda information will be available for viewing by the public on a screen during meetings. However, Gardner commented that the Council should consider putting money into the budget to ensure that each Councillor has access to the system, whether it was through laptops, notebooks or the smaller netbooks.

The Council was sold and unanimously passed a resolution to proceed with implementation of the system. ■

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## Minden Hills Fire Agreements Continue to be Contentious

**"I'm having a difficult time with this." (Eleanor Harrison)**

Draft fire agreements that the Minden Hills Fire Chief is attempting to formalize with Algonquin Highlands and Dysart are still not sitting well with those municipalities. While Chief Doug Schell takes steps to run a tight and efficient department, concern about timely responses and compensation continue to be raised over the past week by both Councils.

The municipality has had long standing agreements in place with the City of Kawartha Lakes, Dysart et al and Algonquin Highlands for the outer limits of Minden Hills. Until now, the agreements with Dysart and Algonquin Highlands have included

amount was put into reserves to purchase fire apparatus for his department.

Hogg also said that the same amount had been in place for years and there had been no additional charges for call outs. He said he hadn't tracked whether or not the municipality was getting good return for the money as there were few guidelines to allow comparisons. According to Hogg, if he used the rate that MTO compensated fire departments for responding to MVA's, the fee would probably range from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Council was in agreement that Minden Hills was getting a fair shake under the existing terms of their agreement, particularly when Hogg commented that the fire load in Carnarvon was one of the largest that his department handles. He said, "I'm confident that we are not over charging, but am sympathetic to any Fire Chief under pressure to reduce his budget."

Harrison said, "I have not changed my opinion. This is an inappropriate place for Minden Hills to try to save several thousand dollars. If \$5,000 was a good deal 20 years ago, it's certainly a good deal now." Harrison went on to say that Carnarvon had grown considerably over the years and the cost of gas and oil had increased steadily as well.

"I'm having a difficult time with this," she said. "There is a fairly substantial tax base in Carnarvon and they should be able to pay \$5,000 to protect that tax base."

The Council resolved to stand firm on their existing agreement.

Meanwhile, this week the Dysart Council voiced concerns about their agreement as well. During a report by Fire Chief Miles Maughan, he advised Council that his department would no longer be responding to MVA's or medical calls in Minden.

Deputy Reeve Bill Davis said, "Let's make no mistake about it, when the calls come in for medical assists, you will get the first call." Maughan acknowledged that there would be a transition period and some confusion.

There was a general feeling of concern among the Council members that the new agreement was not necessarily a good thing, particularly if there are to be further delays in response times. Deputy Fire Chief Don Stephenson said that the paging system would not differentiate between minor and major events.

**"We want to be good neighbours, but this is ridiculous." (Murray Fearney)**



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## Rezoning Your Property Can be a Bumpy Ride

Liz Danielsen  
Staff Reporter

Despite opposition by neighbours, a rezoning application by 719068 Ontario Ltd. (Kennisis Contracting) to allow the development of a duplex dwelling unit and home occupation received a nod of approval by the Dysart Planning Committee last week, but the application was ultimately deferred by Council until by-law enforcement issues can be resolved.

The property owners have already converted an existing single family residence on Kennisis Lake Road (County Road 7) into a duplex, built a storage building and have placed a trailer on the property without the benefit of either building permits or health approvals. The duplex is already being rented out and according to a report by Municipal Planner Pat Martin, the storage building, which is being used to store material for the owner's construction business, also appears to include living space.

The by-law under consideration at the public meeting last Monday would legalize the use of the duplex, but the owners (Vince and Cathy Lancia) have been asked to remove the trailer and demonstrate that the storage building will only be used for storage by the tenants. An unauthorized septic system will also have to be decommissioned.

Martin read a letter into the record from Armand Poissant, the owner of one of the adjacent properties. Poissant had no concerns with the request for rezoning to allow a duplex or home office, saying there were no social, economic or environmental consequences.

On the other hand, Rob Brennar, another adjacent property owner, did have concerns. He questioned whether the septic system installed would be sufficient for a duplex and voiced concerns about being downhill from the system in a location where there has been considerable wash off. Brennar said that the development under consideration was not exactly what had initially been proposed.

"He's put in a bachelor apartment over the residence and has put a dwelling in what was supposed to be a workshop," Brennar said that, from what had been constructed, he could only assume that there will be another residence resulting in two duplexes on the property, something that he would have a problem with.

"I'm not sure exactly what's happening, but I have concerns. When I bought the property it was to be a single residence."

Cathy Lancia, representing Kennisis Contracting at the public meeting, reported that she had submitted an application to the Health Unit and that the septic system had been approved for four bedrooms, which is what is included in the duplex. According to Lancia the second building is to be a home office with storage on the second level.

Martin inquired whether the home office was to be occupied by the actual residents as that would be the legal requirement under their zoning by-law. There was also a suggestion that the storage building might be used as a showroom, but that was something that Martin said would not be allowed.

Brennar commented that there had been a 'lot of junk' on the property and that he was surprised to see a two storey building constructed as he said the original building had been portable. "If there was to be a business there I would have liked to know that when I bought my property for recreational use. There was a stone mason working there all summer. This is disappointing," Brennar also said that he had encountered problems with some of the tenants.

Chairman Steve Pogue asked Lancia if the contractor would be one of the long term renters, but she advised that to date the tenants had been employees of Haliburton Forest & Wildlife. She said, "That's the reason the building became a duplex. We still have people waiting to get into the building."

When Pogue inquired if the intent was only to have tenants and no other business on the property, Lancia said they would like to have storage for their business. Pogue reiterated that any home office use, must be an accessory to the duplex or it would not be allowed.

Councillor Janis Parker voiced concerns that the residents of the duplex don't feel safe, that there is only one exit and the building had not been inspected for fire. Parker asked if there

had been any inspections and whether the building had been approved for residential use and Lancia confirmed that there had been no approval as yet. She said, "The only reason this has happened is that people have been begging for a place to live."

Parker stressed the fact that the building, in its present state, was not safe and that the municipality could be sued for allowing the situation to continue.

Chief Building Official Dan Sayers advised the Committee that the duplex had never had an occupancy certificate even as a single dwelling.

Councillor Andrea Roberts suggested approving the rezoning pending recommendations from inspectors, or by including holding provisions in the by-law.

Martin explained that Sayers required that the zoning be in place prior to approving a building permit for a duplex. She said, "The by-law will give us better tools to deal with the situation."

Parker, still concerned about safety, said, "Let's get the building brought up to code now and get it done fast," and Lancia said, "If we get approvals we will do everything that is required."

After a few more comments from the public, Pogue again stressed to Lancia that any home office would have to be part of the primary dwelling.

The discussion then turned to the requirement to decommission the filter bed installed next to the storage building. As the applicants' agent, Paul Wilson commented that the filter bed could simply remain in place as long as the system was unhooked and the tank removed. Pogue, however, commented that if the filter bed had no legal status it must be removed.

Parking was the next concern as according to Martin vehicles have been parking on the road allowance. She advised the Committee that she had spoken with County Roads Department officials who were specific in saying that they did not want any parking on the road allowance. Lancia was not in agreement with having to relocate the parking given the topography of the property. She said, "If you can't park there you can't live there," but Martin was firm in saying that the municipality did not have the authority to grant permission for parking on the road allowance.

Roberts suggested deferring any decision until there was clarification from the County on the parking, but Parker said, "I don't like the situation as it is; it's not safe." Parker suggested that if parking was an issue, the tenants could park at the sawmill.

Pogue said he wasn't comfortable deferring the matter based on parking concerns alone. Martin told the Committee that the Municipality's lawyer had advised that enforcement on the property would be easier if the proper zoning was in place, and this seemed to tip the balance of the discussion.

While the committee recommended that the zoning application be approved this week, subsequent discussions with the lawyer resulted in several recommendations for Council's consideration.

Martin advised that prior to the by-law being approved the applicant should demonstrate that they were willing to deal with compliance issues. These included removing any possibility of accommodation and disconnecting the plumbing in the 'storage' building. Council also agreed that parking issues should be resolved with the County and the owners should provide acknowledgement that they will not use any of the property for commercial purposes.

A resolution was passed accepting the recommendation of the Public Meeting Committee, but deferring passage of the by-law to amend the zoning. ■

## Fire Agreements Cont'd...

... from pg. 6

He also commented that the cost savings to be realized were insignificant.

Reeve Murray Fearrey said, "This new agreement isn't solving anything. And there will be the inconvenience of our people rushing to respond and then not being required."

Stephenson also voiced concern about a page coming in to respond in another district and how the consequences of a failure to respond could create a major problem. He also said, "Trying to remember what you are required to respond to at three a.m. from a dead sleep, particularly when you are used to leaning on the side of caution, will be tough."

CAO Tammy McKelvey commented that Minden Hills was trying to save money, but Councillor Janis Parker said that if Dysart was incurring costs they would have to be recouped.

Fearrey said, "We want to be good neighbours, but this is ridiculous. Money is not the real issue. It is the inconvenience, but then it does boil down to them paying us or not."

McKelvey commented that it would be easier to establish a geographic boundary that is smaller and then respond to all calls, but Maughan said that had been discussed and was not what Minden Hills wanted. "They like the existing boundaries because of insurance implications."

While there was no specific direction given, it was apparent that the Dysart Council was not particularly happy about the new agreement either and Doug Schell's negotiations may have to continue. ■

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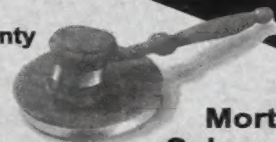
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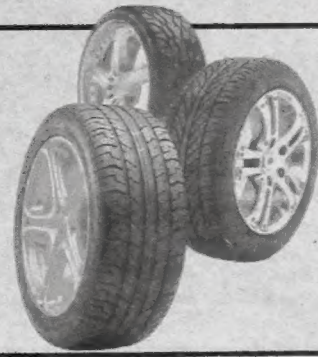
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## Places 4 People on Track

The drywall is coming together and 19 George Street in Haliburton is beginning to look like a house, the rooms upstairs are sectioned off separately now and the furnace has been installed. The house was bought by Places 4 People, an organisation designed to help those residents who struggle each month to afford rent prices combined with increasing utilities. The house is split into two comfortable three bedroom apartments designed for families.

Volunteers and contractors are still tirelessly working to get the project completed for February 1st when the renters hope to move in. Some work every day on the house and others commit to it when they can. P4P are still looking for volunteers to help with the drywall stages; mudding and taping along with odd jobs that need to be finished. They are also looking at people who can restore and refinish wood.

P4P wish to thank the efforts of Jason Tucker of Can-Save Distributor, Kim Emmerson of Emmerson Lumber, Bob Evans of Novanni Stainless Inc, Del and Gerald Sharp from Sharp Electric, Steve Barker from Barkers Heating, general contractor Dan Sayers, Home Depot, Lori Izsak, HP Superstore and Propane, Budget Propane and Oil, James Callow. This list does not include the countless number of individuals who have given their free time to the project over the last months and are still doing so. Some businesses and individuals donated materials, labour and others heavily discounted and gave advice and connections.

If you'd like to donate to the cause you can at Box 544 Minden or through your credit card at [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org) or if you'd like to become a volunteer you can call Heather at (705) 489-2098 or email her at [heatherreid@interhop.net](mailto:heatherreid@interhop.net). ■



## Ten-Year-Old Taylor Coltman Honoured For Her Heroic Efforts

Congratulations were in order on December 10th for a courageous and brave young girl who risked her life to save another. On the evening of November 24th a fire broke out at Staunworth Terrace apartments on Parkside Street. Ten year old Taylor Coltman was able to persuade an elderly neighbour of her grandparents to leave her apartment where she was led to safety outside by Taylor, an action that saved the lady's life.

Taylor Coltman was commended by Reeve Jim McMahon for her bravery and heroism and was awarded a plaque of congratulations. McMahon asked Taylor "do you know what it's like to be a hero?" A quiet and shy Taylor couldn't muster any words to which McMahon said "well you are one because of what you did." He continued by saying that he "spoke to a couple of firefighters who said they weren't sure they would have done what you did and they had all the equipment and were prepared for it."

He told Taylor that she should be "very pleased and proud of herself." He said that that it was "an honour to give her the plaque." Fire Chief Doug Shell gave Taylor a snow globe as a gift for "her heroism that was very much appreciated and that she did a great job." The Reeve added that if it hadn't have been for Taylors brave efforts "the lady in question would not be with us here today. It takes a special type of person to forget about themselves and put someone else first." Taylor an extremely brave young girl who didn't seem to think that her actions were out of the ordinary which makes her even more special. ■



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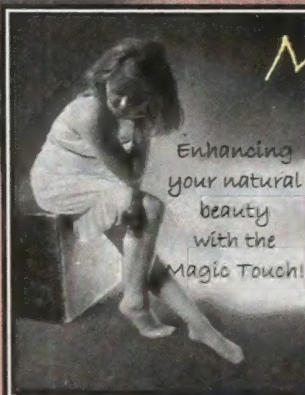
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# Christmas Comes to Wilberforce

By Liz Danielsen

Even bursts of heavy snowfall didn't stop children of ages from coming out of the woodwork for Loop Christmas this past Sunday, and the community of Wilberforce couldn't have been more welcoming. Families lined the streets to view a wondrous parade of floats, vehicles, elves and four legged participants that all gathered to kick off the day's festivities.

Along with members of the Highlands East Fire Department, people from Tory Hill, Wilberforce, Highland Grove and even Harcourt formed the core Loop group that organized the parade and party that followed. Once the parade was completed everyone poured into the Lloyd Watson Memorial Centre to enjoy a bit of warmth and listen to some carols. A wonderful train set was running on a large table and kept many youngsters riveted for the entire time they were. Kids took part in crafts, had a snack and finally hopped up onto Santa's knee to let him know that special something that they'd been hoping for.

Stacks of neatly wrapped gifts were distributed to all of the children and the firemen had candy, pop and hotdogs for all. What was very evident from the overwhelming involvement in the parade, the decorations in the hall and the gifts for all, was that there are a lot of hard working and very generous elves in the neighbourhood, willing to make the day a delight for all who attended.

Children of all ages visited Santa on stage throughout the afternoon, and while some were a bit more reluctant than others, he got the message from everyone. ■



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## Police Reports

### Driver Charged Impaired

(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment have charged a male after stopping a vehicle this past Saturday afternoon on Buckslide Road in Algonquin Highlands Township.

The officer had conversation with the driver who was subsequently arrested and taken to the Haliburton Highlands Detachment.

Brent Murdoch 45 years, of Algonquin Highlands Township has been charged with Impaired Driving and Drive Over 80mgs. Mr. Murdoch will be appearing in Minden court on February 3, 2010. ■

## Fraudulent Scam

(Haliburton, ON.) – Officers from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment along with the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, (formerly Phonebusters), are warning the public of the "emergency scam" which is seeing a major increase across Canada.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre advises that the emergency scam has grown by 157% over the reports received in 2008. In most instances, suspects have targeted victims through emails.

This scam traditionally uses telemarketing to solicit victims. The scam is operated by fraudsters claiming to be a family member or, a close friend of a family member. The fraudsters advise the potential victim about an urgent situation that requires immediate funds. Common themes have been that the family member was arrested or was involved in an accident while traveling abroad and fees are required for hospital expenses, or bail. The recent variant to this scheme is the solicitation being sent to contact lists from hijacked email accounts. This increases the threat of this scam, as a trust level already exists between the sender and recipient. The fraudsters no longer have to pretend to be a family member or close friend.

If you are contacted in such a way, do not send money. Contact the friend/family member that is emailing you to confirm this information via the telephone or, a friend. If you suspect the email is fraudulent, call the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or the OPP 1-888-310-1122. ■

# Fleming College Open Day

By Zoe Cittern

"I'm nearly fully colour blind with the colour red so walking into the dark room for me is quite a challenge. I have to touch my way around the room so I can sense my surroundings" says George Gordon, a photo arts student from Fleming College at the Haliburton School of the Arts. Photo arts is just one of the creative arts programs you can take at Fleming, along with blacksmithing, ceramics, digital image design, expressive arts, fibre arts, glassblowing, jewellery, sculpture, drawing and painting, visual and creative arts and sustainable building design and construction. Each course is a different discipline but each with a common goal; to give outstanding training in the arts and in sustainable building as a backbone to progressing onto higher education in the future.

Last month Fleming College held a Fall open house throughout their campuses which are dotted across Central Ontario. The Haliburton campus displayed stunning exhibits from its arts programs including how to make a piece of jewellery, how to throw a pottery soap jug, examples of silk screen prints on t-shirts, abstract paintings, drawings, film photographs and many more examples of unique art.

Dar Bolahood, full-time program coordinator for the visual arts diploma, said that the college "is a very good place to establish your credentials and your own work. We compress the work here so for example a two year diploma is condensed into a year so although the weeks can be very intense it allows the student to maximise their choice of training in the arts so they can pick and choose which courses they'd like to do if they are unsure."

Fleming College has a partnership agreement with Emily Carr University of Art and Design that enables students' taking the



visual and creative arts diploma to obtain significant credit for their studies toward a degree. Bolahood states that "generally our graduates from the diploma course are on par with two years of full time study from Emily Carr so that's giving them almost a year equivalent. Of course every student is different and it does depend on each solitary case. Emily Carr is a very respectable fine arts school based in Vancouver." Students from the Visual and Creative Arts Diploma said that before taking the course they

"loved art but didn't know the fundamentals of it or the creative process behind a painting. It's an amazing atmosphere at Fleming; everybody is so creative and passionate about what they are doing and it really inspires you to do the same."

For 2010 the Haliburton campus of Fleming College is introducing a new program, sustainable building renovations which is a 19 week certificate course designed to prepare those wishing to seek employment in the design, commissioning and construction of sustainable building renovations. Students work on a residential project in order to fully understand the challenges of green renovation. Graduates will be able to assess current buildings and design a better suiting range of structural renovations for existing housing.

Eighty to 90 percent of students will go onto higher education or return to the College to pursue another course, however for those wishing to undertake a course over the summer months the Haliburton School of the Arts is the perfect place to take up a life long hobby or a way to learn something new. Courses cover an expansive variety of creative arts across the board from song writing to chainsaw sculpture to belly dancing.

The Haliburton arts campus at Fleming College is a place where it's designed to fit your needs, whether you wish to pursue art purely as a hobby or as a lifelong career it gives you the confidence and choices to make the right decision.

Fleming College will have another open house in the spring, however students can begin to apply for programs now. If

you want anymore information on what the Haliburton Campus provides call (705) 457-1680 or visit their website at [www.flemingcollege.com](http://www.flemingcollege.com). ■

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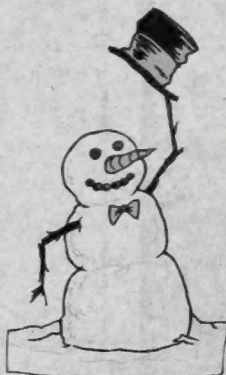
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## HEALTH UNIT HOLIDAY HOURS

The Health Unit office will be closed for the holiday season on: December 24, 25, 28, 31 and January 1.



Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season from the staff of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.



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## Have Your Say... VOX POP

Did you get caught up in the snow storm? Do you remember ever seeing anything like this before?



**Chris Donaldson, Haliburton**

I went on Tuesday evening to dog sit for a friend in Minden on highway 21 and I only got back to my house on Saturday. Their driveway was buried and a snow plow came once but then after that there was just no place to put all the snow. I went to Lindsay on Saturday and the roads beginning from Kinmount were bare, it's just crazy. In all my years of living here I've never seen anything like it, especially not this quickly and all at once.



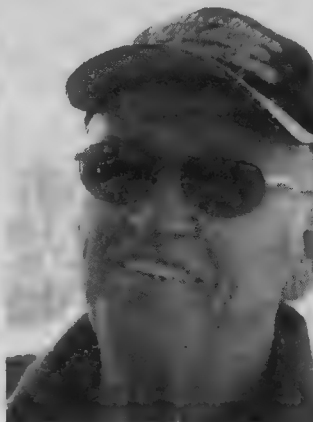
**Christine MacAusland, Minden**

I live in Minden on a back road and I was completely snowed in I couldn't get to work for two days. I couldn't get out of the road; the snow on my driveway was up to my hips. I tried to get out on Friday but just couldn't. The snow plough guys have done an awesome job, you hear too many negatives about them but everyone should try walking in their shoes. I remember just one time about 11 years ago and Minden was declared a state of emergency due to a heavy snowfall but since then I don't.



**Dan Manley, Haliburton**

I work from home so it didn't really effect me, plus we have a four wheel drive vehicle so we could get out when we needed to. I do normally work in Toronto on Thursdays though so I didn't bother going as I knew it would end up taking about five hours so I just stayed at home. I did a lot of shovelling and our neighbours' snow plowed for us so it wasn't too bad. I remember about 10 years ago we had an ice storm in Eastern Ontario where I was living at the time and the military had to come in and help.

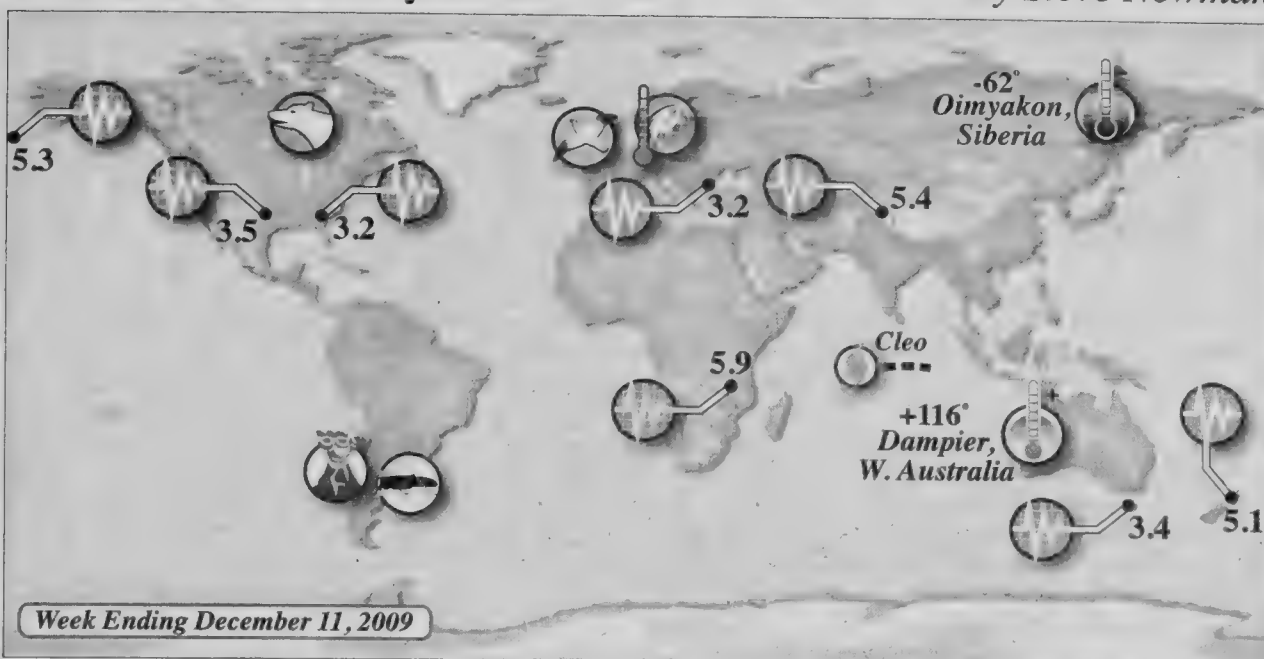


**Robert Luskey, Tory Hill**

I live by myself so I just waited until it was over with, I just had to clear out my driveway and this is my first time leaving on Tuesday. I tell everyone I just put my bear suit on and stay in the log house! I don't like driving in it and I was snowed in pretty good, I didn't have hydro for two days but I have a generator and a wood stove. It snowed for three days in Tory Hill. I've lived here since 1987 and I haven't seen anything like this since being here especially not all at once.

## Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newman



### Polar Cannibals



The late freezing of Arctic sea ice in the fall could be forcing some starving and desperate polar bears along Canada's Hudson Bay to resort to cannibalism. Bears need a platform of ice to hunt for seals, their primary food source. But climate change has caused the sea ice in western Hudson Bay to break up about three weeks earlier than it did 30 years ago, according to Polar Bears International president Robert Buchanan. That means that by late November, the bear's stored body fat is nearly depleted. And without a frozen sea to hunt on, they are more and more resorting to separating cubs from their mothers and then eating the young. Some Inuit observers say such infanticide is normal and shouldn't be linked to climate change. But Buchanan points out that such acts of cannibalism, which were usually seen about once a year two decades ago, have been reported eight times so far this fall in western Hudson Bay.

### Argentine Swarms



A fresh infestation of locusts threatens to devour Argentina's wheat crop over the southern summer because farmers there don't know how to fight an insect that has been virtually absent for nearly 30 years. Agricultural officials in Buenos Aires say that the ravenous pests were driven from the country's wheat belt by wet and humid conditions during the 1980s. A more arid climate over the past few years has allowed the crop-eating variety known as "cucura" to resurface. Last month, the government rushed to help farmers inexperienced in locust control to fumigate their crops before the expected arrival of swarms during December.

### Warmer and Warmest



Weather agencies in the U.K., the United Nations and the United States say that the decade ending this year is almost certain to go down as the warmest since reliable records began in 1850. They add that the year 2009 could also place among the top-five warmest on record. World Meteorological Organization Secretary-General Michel Jarraud told reporters gathered for the Copenhagen climate conference that this year will probably be the warmest on record in parts of central Africa and southern Asia.

### Chilean Rumbblings



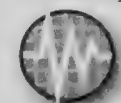
Southern Chile's Llaima volcano, which has had three major eruptions over the past century, appears to be building up pressure to produce yet another, according to volcanologists. A reconnaissance flight revealed an absence of steam and gas escaping from a mountain that normally vents such clouds every day. Scientists say that, combined with a new distinct pattern of tremors, indicates energy is building up inside the volcano in the form of trapped gases. Llaima has begun to register as many as 60 to 70 seismic events per day.

### Tropical Cyclone



Cyclone Cleo organized from a cluster of thunderstorms over the northern Indian Ocean, then quickly intensified to Category 4 force. Maximum sustained winds reached 130 mph as the storm passed well to the south of Diego Garcia in the Chagos Archipelago. Forecasters at the U.S. Military Joint Typhoon Warning Center predicted that Cleo would gradually weaken to tropical storm force before it approached Mauritius and Reunion.

### Earthquakes



The strongest earthquake in a three-day series of rumblings along East Africa's Great Rift Valley killed one child and injured many other people in far northern Malawi. Many of the mud-and-thatch houses built near the epicenter crumbled during the shaking.

• Earth movements were also felt in Bulgaria, northern Pakistan, Tasmania, New Zealand's North Island, Alaska's Aleutian Islands, central Oklahoma and eastern Georgia.

### Feeding Evolution



New research shows that feeding birds over the winter can have a major effect on how some species evolve, and in a surprisingly short period of time. Martin Schaefer, of Germany's University of Freiburg, and colleagues found that one species has split into two distinctive groups because one portion of the population found it could find food in backyard feeders across the U.K. over the winter months. The entire group of blackcaps that breeds in the forests of Germany used to winter in Spain or Portugal. But since the 1960s, more and more of the birds have begun flying northwest during autumn to bird-friendly Britain. Schaefer says his team found that the German blackcaps wintering in the U.K. have developed browner plumage on their backs, rounder wings and more pointed beaks than the blackcaps that migrate to the Iberian Peninsula. He says he believes the two groups are not likely to breed together because those wintering in Britain return to the German forests earlier than those that migrated south.

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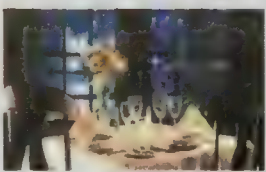
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# Minden Still in a State of Emergency After Winter Storm

Zoe Cittern

Staff Reporter



Minden and Haliburton were hit by shattering amounts of snow last Thursday 10th and Friday 11th December bringing the villages to a standstill. Minden was hit the hardest with reports of well over 100 cm of snow. Haliburton was blasted with about 70 cm. Businesses were closed and vehicles were abandoned as whiteout conditions caused people to stay put. Thursday night the storm came into full force, the villages were pelted with snow causing vehicles to get stuck with several cars needing help to be pulled out. As the evening continued more cars were abandoned on the sides of the roads as the conditions worsened: visibility was reduced at times to just a few inches in front of the windshield.

Minden Hills Fire Chief Doug Schell said that as the snow increased so too did the work for the snow plows. As it got increasingly harder to keep the roads clear he spoke to Public Works

Canada. He says that "in order for the current snow plow workers to work extra hours and to hire private contractors we needed to declare Minden a state of emergency. At 1.07am on December 11th Reeve Jim McMahon signed the declaration which is then sent to the provincial duty officer. This makes it official that we have declared a state of emergency."

The snow plows worked tirelessly throughout Thursday night and Friday morning and into the weekend throughout the county. Private contractors had also been hired to rid the streets of snow. Chief Schell explains that the state of emergency "allows the guys to work longer than regular hours than mandated, to get volunteers and to notify the province that we needed help and we'll be applying for funding through the province." Doug said that "in all my years of living here I've never seen anything like this, apparently there was 125 cm over the course of the few days. We advised people to stay off the roads as the less traffic the better so the snow plows could start clearing up the roads quicker."

The school bus routes were cancelled for the third consecutive day on December 11th which, according to Jeanne Pengelly, communications officer for Trillium Lakelands District School Board is "very unusual to have three days of cancelled buses in a row." Jeanne added that "no schools were closed - the practice is to cancel the buses but we don't close the schools. We do send the teachers home at noon if no students show up." Thursday was a regular snow day at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden with 30-40 students who showed up but the following day no students were present. No school kids were present at Haliburton High on Friday either. The stores on main street in Minden (Bobcayegon Road) were eerily closed and the once busy parking lot in IGA in Minden grinded to a halt on Friday with a sales assistant remarking that the most cars they had at one time was just six. Tim Hortons at lunchtime on Friday was extremely quiet with only a couple of customers visiting the café at one time. The municipal offices in Minden were closed along with Fleming College in Haliburton.

On Thursday night, I had to abandon my car at a friends' residence as it was too dangerous to drive home. The snow covered the car so completely that some snowmobilers thought that it was a snow bank which would make for a nice jump. Luckily a door-mirror was poking out so lucky for me (and for them) they decided against the stunt. I was born and raised in England, which is lucky to experience a sprinkling of the white stuff for a week out of the year so it was to my shock and bemusement when I found myself in waist deep powder when I returned home to my snow covered driveway. I have now exchanged the umbrella for a shovel and began the task of removing metres of snow.

The snow finally eased up Saturday morning which helped the snow plows resume their duties and bring the town back to some sense of normality. The state of emergency is still in place for Minden. Chief Schell told the Voice that "all roads are open now

however they are still widening the roads. Snow loads on structures are still an issue and another concern is kids playing in the snow banks making snow forts etc. Parents are advised to keep children away as heavy equipment will be going around removing the snow banks around driveways. Clean-up might take three to four weeks. We'll keep the state of emergency in place until we get it back in order. The snow ploughs are still working away more than the hours they usually do along with the private contractors. Any inquires please call the main township office at 286-1260 8:30 - 4:30 Monday to Friday and after hours please call 1-866 856 3247" ■



## Shepherd Supper

By Zoe Cittern



Lakeside Baptist Church opened its doors in late November to members of the community who cannot always afford a hot meal. McKecks Blue Line offered its support and donated the food, cooks and servers. "We actually went to them; we had heard that they were offering help around the community and since this is our first community supper we felt we needed some help" says Sarah Adams from LBC. The dinner started at 5.30pm and

two hours before 28 people had already signed up for the free meal. The church was anticipating many more people who didn't pre-register, which wasn't a requirement just appreciated.

It was a collective decision between Chef Linda Askew and Sarah to make a positive impact on the community by offering the three course dinner to those in the community who need it. Linda said that "you see so many people out there who are in seasonal positions and they have a hard time in the winter. It's expensive to eat a well-balanced diet, so we've made sure in the meal that we've included all the requirements such as dairy, protein and vegetables etc. I'm a foodie and I love cooking so doing something like this really appealed to me." Sarah says that she started looking at statistics of poverty in the county which inspired her to do something: "22 percent of people in the area are on government assistance so that doesn't leave much for food and well-being. Another 11 percent experience food insecurity. After reading these figures I really wanted to do something to help." Sarah emailed two social workers, who then contacted their clients who thought the event would benefit them. Students who often find it hard to budget their low income or student loan between their rent, utilities, travelling and studying costs can end up with a lackluster diet. Students from the surrounding area were also expected to show up.

This year the church will be hosting its fifth annual 'mission of love' event where a turkey dinner will be served on Christmas day. LBC will be hosting another dinner on January 3rd though that is subject to change so watch for posters and flyers. ■

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286-2911  
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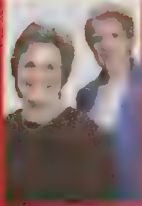
**Highland Gates Estates - \$249,000**

This custom built bungalow on a level and nicely landscaped corner lot is situated in an area of fine homes. 1685 square feet of living space on the main floor featuring: three bedrooms, sunroom, spacious dining room, two baths including ensuite, two car att. garage and a full basement with two guest bedrooms, family room and two piece bath. A must see!



**38 McKay St. - \$219,500**

Just listed! Spacious family home featuring four bedrooms, spacious country kitchen, separate dining room, main floor office/den, two four piece baths, large back yard deck, two car attached garage with paved drive and full basement. Walking distance to school, hospital, library and shopping. A pleasure to show and available for immediate possession.

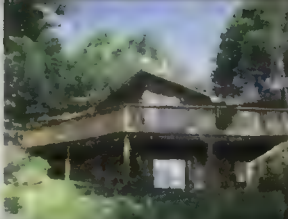


**Cathy\* Lancia & Shirley Rule**  
Kennisis Lake Office  
754-4242



**Kennisis Lake - \$479,000**

Terraced property with a remarkable stone pathway to the lake. 105 ft of sand beach and open view. The cottage is fully insulated with a UV system for potable. Hardwood floors, oak kitchen, e glazed windows, exceptional lighting inside and out. Cedar Cathedral ceiling.



**Little Kennisis Lake - \$449,700**

Viceroy Style Cottage, private lot w 137' rocky frtg. Southern open view. Elevated driveway to open level area. 2 large stone fp, cathedral ceilings, custom kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths & den. Fully finished basement w/large family Rm, laundry, utility & wkout, creating over 2800 of living space. Charm & character abound.



**Debra Lambe**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 244



**The Value is in the Plus's - \$459,000**

On Haliburton Lake. 4 season / 3 + 2 BR cottage/home on large level lot(.86 acre) w/sand beach(179ft frontage). Features include warm pine sunroom PLUS w/walkout to lakeside deck, PLUS large kitchen w/breakfast bar, open concept dining rm & LR, 1-4 pce. washroom w/main floor laundry area, 1-3 pce. bathroom, PLUS games/recreo(w/pool table) PLUS w/walkout to lower deck area and hot tub! PLUS COMPLETELY FURNISHED!

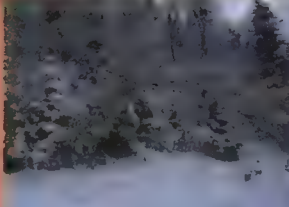


**Location Location CENTURY HOME - \$199,900**

Large and well maintained 3 B.R., 2 bath/home in the heart of Haliburton with easy access to all amenities. Situated on corner, landscaped lot w/fenced yard for privacy and lovely gardens. Some features include hardwood oak floors, slate flooring at entrance, main floor laundry and main floor bedroom or office, propane fireplace and carport. Newer windows, roof and furnace. Town sewers. Would be perfect home, rental or home business location.



**Denise LeBlanc**  
Minden Office  
286-2911  
ext. 33



**Six Acres Overlooking Minden - \$42,900**

Large building lot with the most beautiful view overlooking the town of Minden. The driveway was roughed in at one time, hydro & telephone available close by. Several nice level plateau's for building with lots of mature trees.



**Deeded Access To South Lake - \$129,900**

Awesome little 2 bdrm house/cottage offering year round use and year round access. Cute and cozy, bright and clean featuring new shingles in 2008 and a high efficiency propane furnace too. A nice 3 pc bath has just been redecorated and the building is equipped with all thermopane windows a couple of sheds and a nice level lot. Add to this deeded access to South Lake just across the rd and you've got a nice starter package.



**Elizabeth Thompson**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 248



**The Bayou Cottage-1157 Ilman Rd-Lot 1 - \$449,000**

Stothart Creek Bayou Cottage on .86 ac is located 2.2 km from downtown Haliburton & combines the elegance of spacious living with the beauty of the Highlands. The engaging veranda gives a wonderful welcome to friends as it stretches across the entrance. Inside, the foyer opens to the lr and great rm with its galley window, 9' ceilings & 270 degree scenic viewing in the breakfast nook. Plus GST.



**The Edisto Cottage on Lot 22 - \$399,900**

The Stothart Creek development of elegant custom homes is nestled within the natural landscape of the Haliburton Highlands, approx 2km from the village of Haliburton. The 'Edisto River Cottage' is a spacious 3 bdrm 2-storey, 2438 sf home, featuring a lge great room with 9 ft ceilings, main floor master br with ensuite, dining room, screened porch off breakfast area, main flr laundry, att dble gar. w/ unfinished apart. Plus GST.

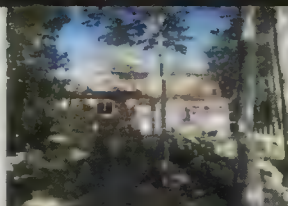


**Fred Chapple**  
Minden Office  
286-2911  
ext. 43



**1957 Fleming Road - \$249,000**

Enjoy this Royal Home in a quiet neighbourhood near the edge of town, walking distance to school. 3 plus bedrooms, full - high basement. Insulated 2 car attached garage. On town water and sewer. Central vac, air exchanger, whirlpool tub and outside hot tub complete this package.



**Little Boshkung Lake - \$635,000**

Very spacious custom built viceroy style back split home or cottage. Vaulted ceilings and open concept main rooms allow for great entertaining. Three bedrooms and three baths and a finished lower level with family room and wet bar. A modern large gazebo and a one bedroom with bath, kitchenette & living rm all in a one slip covered boathouse with sand beach & a glorious western sunset completes the picture.



**Geoff Bunn**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 242



**Fred Jones Road - \$124,900**

Complete privacy on this property, overlooking a small pond. This 3 bedroom, 1 bath with main floor laundry home is only minutes to the town of Haliburton, or just down the road to public access to Drag Lake.



**Starter or Retirement - \$129,900**

Great starter or retirement home, centrally located in Wilberforce. Steps away from all amenities, and a short walk to access on Pusey (Dark) Lake. Level lot with large mature trees and a 16'x16' shed. The house has had many recent upgrades. Very neat and well laid out bungalow that shows pride of ownership. You don't want to miss this one!

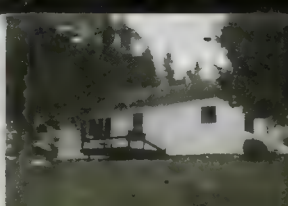


**Jeff Wilson**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 233



**Newly Constructed - \$299,000**

Residential - Newly constructed home close to town, very private setting. Modern 3+ bdrm home with ensuite off master. Open concept living room/ kitchen w/ pine floors throughout. In floor heating throughout w/ a wood burning FP on main floor. Finish the bsmt to your liking w/ 9' ceilings & 3rd bath roughed in. Circular driveway, drilled well & septic. Insulated Concrete Formed from the ground up.



**Residential - \$199,000**

Be on the water for less than \$200 Thousand. Enjoy this beautiful level lot, 3 bedroom home or cottage with access to Maple, Grass and Pine Lakes. A perfect first cottage. Also old original cottage exists on property.



**Ken\* Barry**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 228



**Halls Lake - \$329,900**

Magnificent oversized level lot with a great sunrise view on Halls Lake. Beautiful sand beach area and rocky shoreline with lake frontage as well as river frontage all very private. Two cottages on the property.



**Barry Line Road - \$118,000**

Great starter or retirement home with numerous upgrades. Full, finished walkout basement to the private, level front yard. Very private setting close to skiing, golfing, shopping, public beach and Crown land.



**Linda\* Baumgartner & Troy Austen**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011  
ext. 231



**Kashagawigamog Lake - \$749,000**

148 ft. of beautiful shoreline. nice sand beach with deeper water for docking your boats. 3 bdrms, 3 baths in the main building. cathedral ceilings, stone fireplace, skylights, pine flooring and main floor laundry. Large master bedroom with its own private balcony and ensuite bath. Totally equipped 2 bdrm guest cottage with a wet kitchen and 3 pc bath gazebo, double wet slip boathouse and change room/bunkie at the waters edge. southern exposures provides plenty sunshine large sitting deck at the waters. Must to see!

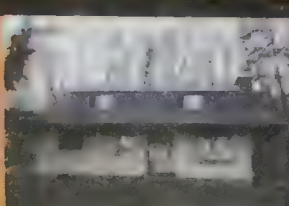


**Horseshoe Lake - \$509,000**

3br on the main & large master br on lower level. 3 bathrooms, roomy livingrm w/ cathedral ceilings. Large screen porch off kitchen/living area. efficient kitchen with wood cabinetry. natural wood trim thru'out. double car garage is great for storing outdoor toys or parking a couple of vehicles. natural wood siding. Sand shoreline. Located close to Minden & the 'white water rapids'.



**Lynda Litwin**  
Minden Office  
286-2911  
ext. 35



**Haliburton Village Home - \$233,900**

Free Internet, Rental income from internet tower, 3 bedroom home with walk out basement, screened in porch, studio over garage +++ so much more. Call Lynda Litwin to view this home



**South Lake Home - \$399,900**

Custom kitchen, huge dining and entertainment area, sunken living room, walk out to lake, level lot, triple garage with workshop. Only 5 minutes to Minden. Call Lynda Litwin to view this home

Broker of record\*\*\* Broker/Manager\*\* Broker\* All others are Sales Representatives





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**Madeline Doyle**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 250



**Vacant Lot - Sandford Court - \$59,900**  
Beautiful 2.69 acre parcel with 529' frontage on Sandford Court. This 2.69 acre parcel is relatively level with mature trees and forest feel. Private yet close to town. Seller is a registered Real Estate Sales Representative. Contact LB office for clauses.



**Vacant Lot - Sandford Court - \$99,900**  
Private estate lot (5.5 Acres) located in newer subdivision in village of Haliburton with spectacular view of both Grass & Head Lake. Conveniently located close to Sir Sandford Fleming College and shopping area. Cleared site, drilled well, driveway and septic approved



**Marilyn Hawley**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 237



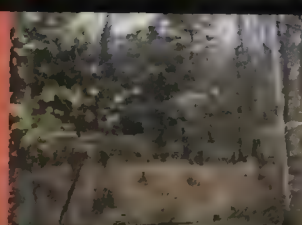
**Lipsy Lake - \$1,125,000**  
This newly built 4 bedroom post and beam cottage exudes quality and whimsy. Nothing but the best materials were used including a CaesarStone Quartz kitchen countertop, slate and hardwood floors plus slate shower and tub surrounds. The soaring ceilings and expansive windows in the Great Room make it a place you'll never want to leave. The waterfront is that perfect mix of natural, deep, rock-shelf with a great sandy, gradual entry area for the kids and launching the kayak



**Redstone Lake - \$2,800,000**  
Luxury retreat on spectacular Redstone Lk combines lake fring on quiet bay w/absolutely private gorge & tranquil river view. Extensive & innovative docking systems & entertainment decks plus 360 degree deck on main cottage enhance outdoor enjoyment. Incredible log home with superior custom & artistic design features inside & out add to your relaxation. Incl separately deeded lot with charming 3BR luxuriously appointed guest cabin with covered post & beam porch, 2 f/s & screened room plus a 2000sf detached.



**Marj & John Parish**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 226



**Sir Sams Ski Resort At Your Back Door - \$65,000**  
2.5 Acre Chalet Lot! Located at the Top Chairlift.



**Semi Private Lake - \$495,000 + GST**  
4400 Feet of Frontage, Sand Shoreline, 190 Acres, Development Potential! 4 to 5 Lots! Year Round Twp



**Melanie Vigrass**  
Minden Office  
286-2911 ext. 40



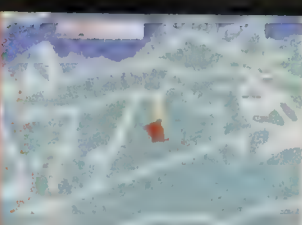
**New Price - \$275,000**  
Need more space? Look no further. This home features 1750 sq. ft. on the main level w/ a partially finished walk-out bsmt. A formal dining rm & living rm, plus a dinette & a sunroom offer lots of living space. & your laundry is also on the main flr. The main-floor master bdrm features an ensuite with a Premier bathtub 2 more bdrms on this level share a full 4 pce washroom. Downstairs features a lge rec rm, cedar bath, sauna, & a hobby rm, along w/ an office & storage. Other features incl: att. dble gar., hardwood flrs, propane FP, propane stove, c/a/r & central vac. Call today to book your appointment



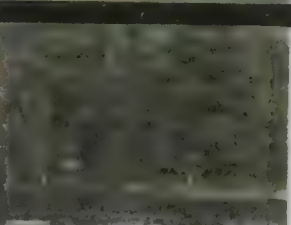
**New Price - \$221,500**  
Flooded with sunshine, this 3bdrm/2 bath home features a wraparound deck, main floor and lower level driveways and entrances, insulated detached garage, large rec room with a propane stove, large eat-in kitchen, central air, and a steel roof. This well maintained home is ready for you to view!



**Peter Brady**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 234



**Private Chalet Lot-Sir Sam's - \$45,000 Quiet Cul De Sac**  
Very private, lovely rolling site with secluded settings for your 4 season chalet home. Walk to ski hills, store, LCBO, spa & Rhubarb restaurant. Only \$45,000 Call Peter now for plans and building costs. Ask Peter about the adjoining lot.



**Only 3 Left! - \$269,000**  
Last chance to own and build your dream 4 season castle on Eagle Lake! Almost 5 acres of great wilderness, wildlife and waterfront. Close to store, ski hills, spa & Rhubarb restaurant. What else could you ask for? Only \$269,000. Call Peter now for building designs and estimates. Ask Peter about your private 8+ acre compound on 660+ feet of sand



**Ted Vasey**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 223



**Kennisis Lake - \$445,000**  
170 feet of sand shoreline in this quiet bay - 1494 sq. ft. cottage or home. Spacious country kitchen with w/o to porch - w/o living room to deck - fireplace - 3 bedrooms - guest cabin - garage - beautiful sunsets from here - private boat launch - twp road



**Minden - 12229 Hwy #35 - \$149,000**  
Well maintained home on the edge of Minden - 1600 sq. ft. of living space - 3 bedrooms - 2 bathrooms - walkout basement - attached garage - municipal water - 147 frontage / .48 acres



**Terry Carr**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 236



**Harcourt - \$164,900**  
In Harcourt Village and nestled amongst mature pines is a well built and modest executive home. The paved circular driveway leads to an attached 29' x 24' double garage. This beautifully landscaped yard has a stone step entrance and maintenance free exterior that will have you relaxing in no time. Enjoy the large private backyard for summer gatherings and display your talents in the wired-insulated



**Kushog Lake Area - \$225,000**  
This 4 season home or cottage is perfectly located to give you a view of beautiful Kushog Lake! This bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath home offers a large kitchen dining area and great living room with oak cabinetry, pot lights, and a front porch for hours of relaxation. Located on 2.13 acres, partially wooded, with tonnes of privacy.



**Tom\*\* & Gail Tempest**  
Minden Office  
286-2911 ext. 41



**Sherwood Forest - Boshkung Lake - \$1,175,000**  
Custom designed & built in 2006 with 200' of south facing golden sand beach on beautiful Echo Bay. Dead level 1 acre professionally landscaped lot with well treed buffer side areas for privacy. Irrigation system for carefree lawns & gardens. This property offers 3 BRs, lg. loft, utility room with main floor laundry; geothermal heating/cooling system; 'Generac' generator system for those inevitable power outages; hardwood floors with porcelain tiles in entranceway & kitchen. Plus more



**Moore Lake - \$359,000**  
Cute and charming is the only way to describe this cottage/home located on Moore Lake. South facing frontage is sandy/rocky with deep water off the dock. 17' X 16' bunkie right at the shoreline. Large sunroom has hot-tub which can be used year round. Hear the water rush over Moore Falls and enjoy complete privacy. This property is very clean and well maintained. Don't miss this opportunity for a year round property which is positioned well for the GTA buyer



**Vince\*\*\* Duchene**  
Haliburton Office  
457-1011 ext. 225



**Haliburton Home - \$187,900**  
This 3 bedroom home is located on Ridgeview Road in Haliburton. Situated on 3.77 acres this walkout design gives you a lot of house. The flooring throughout is all brand new, freshly painted, new pine trim and featured is the open concept LR/KT/DR with pine cathedral ceiling. Main floor laundry and large walk out to deck off the living room tops it off. Asking \$187,900



**Living By The Lake - \$379,900**  
A gem! Renovated throughout, lots of wood interior, open concept cottage AND a spectacular boathouse overhanging the lake WITH a finished guest cabin and screened in sunporch to capture a sense of "living by the lake"! This property has a spectacular view over South Bay of Haliburton Lake and offers great swimming, boating and fishing opportunities. Asking \$379,900



**Rick\* Forget, Iona Fevreau & Mary Harnden**  
Wilberforce Office  
448-2222



**Esson Lake - \$219,900**  
This well treed property offers a great location for your cottage enjoyment, including a 1 Room Cabin and Bunkie tastefully finished, newer septic, deep clean water, all on a terraced lot with year round access. Building plans available for expansion, Building Permit can be transferred.



**Grace River - \$269,900**  
Four Season Home/Cottage with 195' sandy shoreline on Grace River with access to 2 lakes. Being extremely close to Grace Lake. Not only do you have a great view of Grace Lake from your deck, but you can also watch the spectacular sunset from the dock as well. This home has 1800 sq ft of finished living space, pool for when the water levels start to drop, a great room setting with small mouth bass and brownie trout, small black and white of property. Year round access, close to all amenities. Large bright rooms. A must see!



**Susan Lee**  
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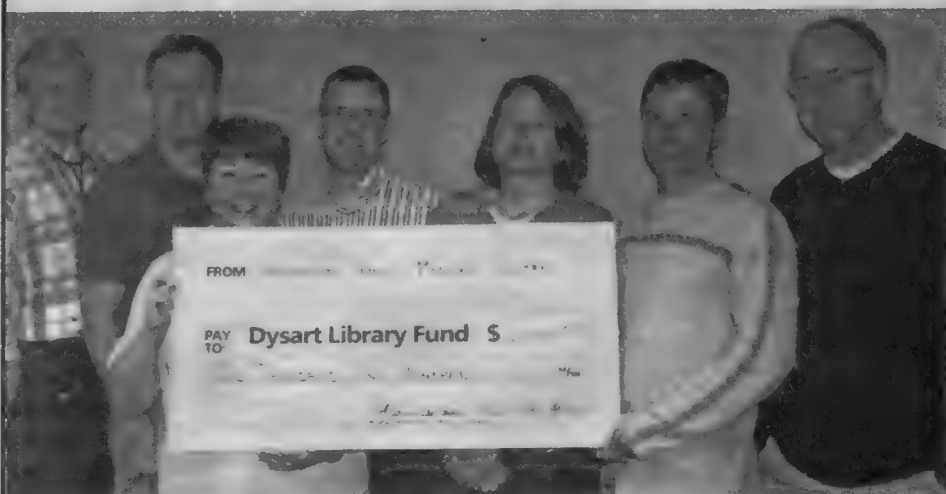


# Highlands East Cats

by Liz Danielsen

## Haliburton Medical Centre Raises \$2500 for Library

Linda Heeps, secretary of the Dysart et al Library Fund Raising Committee was pleased to accept a cheque for \$2,500.00 from the physicians at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre. ■



Left to right: Dr. Robert Heyes, Dr. Norm Bottom, Linda Heeps, Dr. Scott Coles, Dr. Aoife Conway, Dr. Mike Armstrong, Dr. Steve Ferracuti. Missing from the photo was Dr. Kristy Gammon, Dr. Tina Stephenson and Dr. Karl Hartwick

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**1144 GRACE RIVER RD. \$269,900**



Four Season Home/Cottage with 195' sandy shoreline on Grace River with access to 2 lakes, being extremely close to Grace Lake. Not only do you have a great view of Grace Lake from your deck, but you can also watch the spectacular sunsets from the deck as well. This home also features a 16'x32' heated swimming pool for when the water levels start to drop. Great private setting with small boathouse at waters edge and a small Bunkie at back of property. Year round access, close to all amenities. Large bright rooms. A must to see!



**Rick Forget**



Rick Forget, Broker  
Iona Fevreau and Mary Hamden  
Sales Representatives

**Wilberforce Office**

Haliburton Highlands Realty Inc., Brokerage  
Box 287, 2260 Loop Rd.  
Wilberforce ON, K0L 3C0  
Toll Free: 1-800-461-0378  
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## Stumbling Blocks for Feral Cats

*"We have a legitimate concern here."  
(Jim Mackie)*

Just when it looked like the solution for feral cats and a home for them in Highlands East was in sight, the Council there has encountered another stumbling block. Plans to build the cat colony at the Monmouth landfill site have met with opposition by the Ministry of Environment.

Last week CAO Sharon Stoughton-Craig reported that she had spoken with MOE's Michael Longpre, who said that the municipality could not use a landfill for a cat colony without amending their Certificate of Approval for the site. But amending a CofA can be a very onerous and time consuming process and something that Council would be very reluctant to do.

Stoughton-Craig said that she had met with Wilberforce resident Bud Friesman, who has agreed to look after the cats, and they viewed alternate locations that might be suitable. She suggested a three acre parcel of municipally owned land off Harcourt Road, but concerns about accessing the location, lack of hydro and the need for either propane or some source of heat seemed to be serious deterrents.

Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie said, "There should be absolutely no impact. How could the cats hurt anything?" Mackie also suggested that it would be far better for the cats to be in a location where there was someone to look after them and where there would be no concerns about vandalism. He asked for specific rationale from MOE, saying, "I'd like to see the legislation that requires that, or is this just his call? We have been playing around with this and now we're faced with looking at an obscure location with no hydro and where only certain equipment can be used to access it. The next thing will be the need to buy a generator."

Mackie referred to the cost of the project which is presently estimated at approximately \$10,000 and said that the municipality had an insulated building with hydro. Councillor Gary Stoughton commented, "If you're thinking of using that building for feral cats, you're way off the beam. We'll be building something."

"We have to open the CofA for any other use of the dump at all," the CAO said again, and both Reeve Dave Burton and Stoughton immediately said they didn't like that idea at all.

Mackie said, "A cat house would have a different definition in the State of Nevada; here it's just a few cats and this is silly." Mackie was also concerned about upsetting the apple cart with Friesman, who is committed to the project. But Stoughton-Craig advised Mackie that they were talking about more than just a few cats, and that Friesman had confirmed by the time they were done there could be as many as 50 or more animals.

The Council spent a bit of time discussing the merits of the Harcourt Road property and exactly what they would need in terms of a building, as Friesman had suggested a 16 x 16 building with a cement floor rather than the 10 x 10 building originally under consideration.

Stoughton, who has been dealing with many of the complaints about feral cats in his Ward over the past year or more, finally showed a bit of frustration and said, "Well, let's just drop it. I've been fighting to get this through, but if it's going to cost us \$25,000 we might as well speak to the Beech Tree Farm people."

Mackie however, said, "If it's a matter of only a letter (to MOE) for approval, let's do it." Councillor Suzanne Partridge suggesting asking for clarification from MOE in writing before going further, and Mackie said, "Let's go over his head; we have a legitimate concern here and to say that we can't keep cats that could be there anyway.... These cats are all neutered and are not a menace to anyone."

Attempts to contact Longpre during the course of the meeting were not successful but Stoughton-Craig later confirmed Longpre's position that there was nothing stopping the municipality from applying to amend the CofA. She said, "There would be a lot of information that we would have to provide to justify the need for the colony and there would be no guarantee that we would get approval. MOE is simply not in favour of approving the colony for a waste disposal site." The CAO also confirmed the need

to restrict access to all of the landfills once they were closed, adding that due to liability concerns the landfill would be fenced next year.

While he has yet to be specific about the legislation, Longpre confirmed with the Voice that MOE discourages this type of operation at a landfill site, citing health and safety issues for both the operators of the landfill and the public.

One thing is certain; there is no doubt that this is not the end of the saga for feral cats in Highlands East. ■



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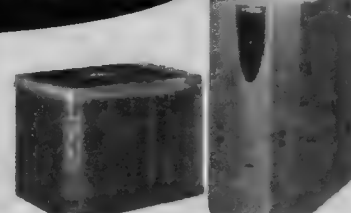
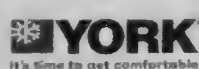


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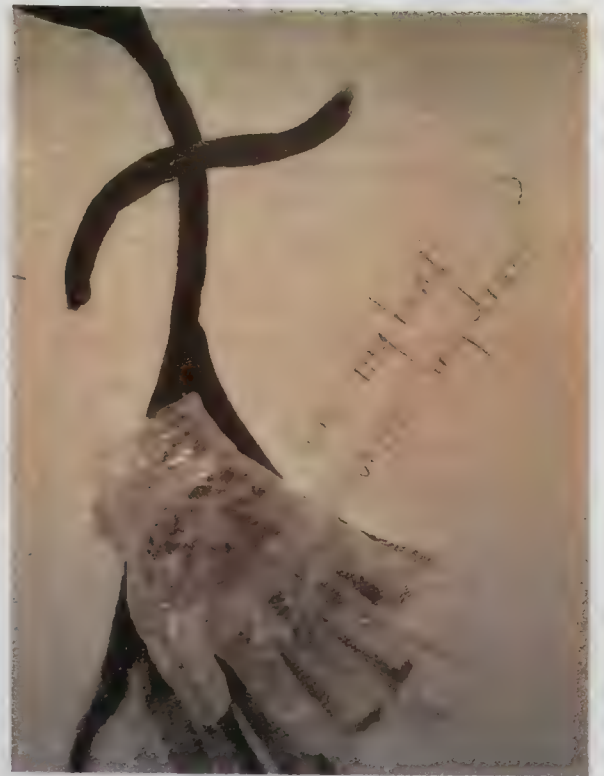


## Off the Wall Party Disrupted by Storm

Rails End Gallery unfortunately had to postpone their 'Off the Wall' party on December 11th due to the snow storm, however they have bounced back and they are conducting their silent auction still which will run until December 19th at 4pm. Items that are available to bid on include Toronto Maple Leafs tickets, a golf gift certificate, a one night stay at the Pinestone and many more enticing offerings. You can place bids by phone 457-2330 or in person at the gallery. You can also purchase the art straight from the walls themselves for just ten cents per square inch. ■

Zoe Cittern

Staff Reporter



## Holiday Savings Shop Local and SAVE!!

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Draw to be held on Saturday, December 19, 2009.

*The County Voice*

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*The County Voice*

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*The County Voice*





## Kai Shin Karate North Competes at Annual "Shiai"

Submitted by Sensei Michael Chapman

The Kai-Shin Karate Association is the oldest and largest Karate organization in Canada, with 51 Dojos in towns from the North West Territories to Newfoundland. Every year on the first Sunday in December Dojos from across the country gather in Mississauga where the main Dojo, the Hombu, holds a 'Shiai', or Gathering of Friends Tournament.

Kai Shin Karate North was proud to compete in this tournament, and gathered early Sunday morning (6:30 am!) at the Dojo of Sensei Guest, who's a eighth Dan, and who founded the first Canadian Karate Club in 1962. The competition is divided between 'Kata', which involves the students' demonstrating a set order of moves, similar to a dance set. They are judged on their strength, power, stance, and speed.

The second competition is the 'Kumite', or fighting section, although no contact is allowed, for obvious reasons. A punch or kick must come close to your opponent, but not too close. But from time to time strikes do happen - and the striker automatically loses the match.

The Haliburton Dojo brought 60 people to the tournament, 20 students and 40 friends and family. In the fighting section, Cody Hunter gained first place in the Men's Brown Belt. Melissa Cooper took second in the Brown Belt Junior Fighting.

Jackie Davis took first place in the white/yellow/orange section in junior fighting: Archan Patel took second in the eight to ten years old fighting section as well. Leah Blenkinsop won second in the adult white/yellow/orange section of the Kata.

Congratulations to the winners: and in Karate, there really are no losers. We all gain knowledge and from this we grow.

If anyone wants to learn more about Karate please feel free to book a free lesson at 457-3616. ■

Front Row: Leah Blenkinsop, Lane Brohm, Nick Pippen, Molly Devolin.  
Middle Row: Melissa Cooper, Derek Reid, Taggart Walker, Joey Davis, Archan Patel, George Devolin, Brittany Imasuen, Melissa Pippen - Back Row: Sensei Bob Deremo, Adam Duma, Isaac Reid, Raymond Bunn, Jackie Davis, Sensei Michael Chapman, Sensei Kyle Seabrooke

## Haliburton Youth Curling Bonspiel

Congratulations to the three winning teams at the Haliburton Youth Curling Christmas Bonspiel 2009 which took place Tuesday, December 8th.

The Haliburton Youth Curling program has grown to 29 enthusiastic members, some of whom will hopefully represent Haliburton at the Timbits bonspiel in March. Although the program is full for this season, new curlers will be welcomed next October.

A heart-felt thank you goes out to the Haliburton Stedman's and the Haliburton Subway, each of whom donated some of the prizes. Thank you also to the many volunteers. ■



Team Stevenson, (left to right) Keifer Stevenson, Rourke Stevenson, Jalen Campbell and Zachary Williams;



Team Williams, Jordan Nimigon, Blake Lamshead, Chris Draper and Cody Williams.



Team Wheeler, Natalie Griffin, Riley Lamshead, Andre Dulong and Brian Wheeler.

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# Living the NHL Dream

... from pg. 1

Duchene made the most of his shot. A rookie of Duchene's age can play nine games before management must make a decision whether to send the player back to juniors – for Duchene it would be the Brampton Battalion – or keep him with the big boys for the rest of the season. Past the 10 game mark, a rookie cannot be sent back to juniors and is automatically given a full entry-level contract. When dealing with an 18 year old, even one of Duchene's potential, most general managers choose to send down the player for more development and to save some money by not having to fork over the cash a first-year player is entitled to have. Bucking tradition, the Avalanche kept Duchene up, impressed by his energy, speed, and skill, especially at the centre position.

One huge hole that needed filling at centre for the Avs was caused by the retirement of Joe Sakic, a future hall-of-famer who served as the face of the franchise since the Avs moved to Colorado from Quebec back in 1995. Given the departure of Sakic, and the arrival of third overall draft pick in Matt Duchene, many fans began to compare the two players – lofty expectations for an 18 year old just trying his best to make the squad, let alone fill the shoes of a hockey legend.

"I don't feel a whole lot of pressure based on other's expectations," said Duchene. "The only pressure I feel is what I put on me, the expectations that I place on myself."

Despite the energy Duchene has shown, points were hard to come by earlier in the season, and the fans that had instantly made Duchene a fan favourite began to have doubts. In online blogs and forums, fans began to believe that Duchene should have been sent back to juniors after all, that keeping him up was a mistake. Given today's stats-obsessed fan base as well as their 'what have you done for me lately' mentality, it's no surprise how just 15 games later, those same fans are back on the bandwagon after Duchene went on a hot streak. Duchene finally started getting the rewards on the score sheet for all the effort he has been putting in all season long. For the week of November 30th to December 6th, Duchene scored four goals and two assists, production that the NHL took notice of, awarding Duchene by naming him Third Star of the Week for the entire league.

"Getting that honour felt awesome," said Duchene. "I just had to

make my game a little simpler, stop trying to do too much. I also started shooting the puck more, which has helped.

"Also," Duchene added, "it all comes back to what the biggest adjustment is for jumping up a league – being the same player I was in the last level. Whether it's going from minor hockey to juniors, or juniors to the NHL, I find it's always about adapting to the game and learning about how to be the player you were previously."

Duchene has now played over 35 games, and though that hardly makes him a veteran by any means, he has become used to the idea of being an NHL player.

"I don't get a whole lot of time to daydream about where I am," said Duchene, "I have to keep playing and do my job first and foremost, but there are moments where I sit back and can really enjoy where I'm at right now."

One such moment came when Duchene lined up against Paul Kariya of the St. Louis Blues in a preseason game. Duchene noted how Kariya was a player everyone his age looked up to growing up s kids.

"I remember getting a picture taken with Kariya when I was eight years old," recalled Duchene. "Now I'm playing against him."

Duchene scored a goal in that game, and though the Avalanche lost, there were signs throughout the preseason that the team could be a surprise that year. JOr, at the very least, be competitive. However, most hockey experts picked the Avs to finish at the bottom of the conference, or even the entire league. Fast forward 35 games and the Avs were leading the Northwest Division and were second in the Western Conference, thanks in large part to contributions from another 18 year old rookie, Ryan O'Reilly, the stellar play of goaltender Craig Anderson, and of course, the contagious energy and effort of Matt Duchene. Whether the Avalanche continue this surprising start all the way to the playoffs remains to be seen, but Duchene is enjoying the moment and taking it day by day.

"I have met Sakic a few times and he has given me only one piece of advice: 'enjoy every moment, because it goes by faster than you think.' And I'm certainly enjoying it so far." ■



Matt Duchene

## Highland Cup to Go Ahead at Pinestone Resort

Despite recent changes in management at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre the Highland Cup Snowmobile Race is still very much on and scheduled to run at the hotel in Haliburton on March 6th and 7th next year. The race starts at 10am with tickets \$20 per person for one day or \$25 for both days with accompanying children of 12 years and younger free. It is the second year of the event with the races to be held on the pond at the front garden of the resort. It is the second time that the Highland Cup will be scheduled to run in Haliburton in 2008 it was held on Head Lake. ■

## Red Hawk Wrestlers Show their Strength in Tournament Play

Mike Mazara Becomes Eastern Ontario Champion

By Matthew Flowers

Due to a string of snow days last week, several high school sporting events were cancelled. The wrestling team had one tournament at Weldon High School cancelled because of snow, but that didn't stop the team from taking part in two other tournaments, one in Picton on December 10th and another in Renfrew on December 12th.

Only nine wrestlers could take part in the Picton tournament, but the Hawks made the most of the opportunity. Six of those wrestlers placed in the top four for their respective weight classes.

"By travelling to this area," said Head Coach Paul Klose, "Red Hawk wrestlers had a chance to scope out the competition from the other half of the district to help prepare for the COSSA Championships in February."

In the Renfrew tournament, another four took medals home, but it was Mike Mazara who took home gold in his weight class. The result means he is the Eastern Ontario Champion, a distinction that allows him to take part in the Ontario Winter Games in March, which will take place in Muskoka. The Winter Games is a bi-annual event featuring over 3000 youths from across Ontario taking part in a wide range of sports.

Below are the results of the Picton and Renfrew tournaments.

### Picton Tournament

- Fourth – Connor Cowan
- Bronze – Tara O'Sullivan
- Silver – Greg Baumgartner, Lily Coneybeare
- Gold – Jordan Roberts, Christianna Walker

### Renfrew Tournament (Eastern Ontario Championships)

- Bronze – Cody Cox, Maia O'Sullivan
- Silver – Kayle Gardiner
- Gold – Mike Mazara ■

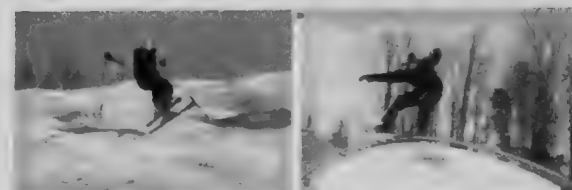


Wrestling Champion Mike Mazara

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## Haliburton Skating Club Raises Funds

Haliburton Figure Skating Club donned Christmas attire and bowling shoes Saturday December 5th at Fast Lanes Bowling in Minden to raise funds for their club. Jennifer Little, an executive member of the club, explained that "as ice costs increase each year so too do the registration costs which we want to keep as low as possible for the parents." The Bowlathon was also a way for the kids to "take ownership of their club and see what the money is contributed to after they've helped raise it. It's also a fun Christmas celebration."

The money will also go towards the end of season ice show which according to Jennifer "all the kids take pride in participating in especially with the costumes they get to wear." The children paid to bowl and collected pledges and bowled in an hour and a half stretches. In total an impressive \$1100 was raised for the club. ■

## Red Hawks Skate away with a 5-2 win over Clarke Monday Night after a Strong Showing at a 40-Team Tournament

By Matthew Flowers

Up until Monday night's game, the Red Hawks hockey team had yet to face a challenging Double-A team in their own league. Up until Monday night, it has been so easy the team had to slow down so as not to run up the score too much. That all changed against the Clarke Raiders of Newcastle on December 14th, when Haliburton held off the Raiders for a 5-2 win.

"We know that greater competition will be coming after the Christmas Break, but we got it tonight," said Head Coach Ron Yake.

Brett Yake and Kevin Nelson each had two goals, while Drew Paul scored once. Nelson added an assist for a 3-point night, while Ashton Haley had three assists of his own.

The game was in Clarke's favour for most of the first period. Using their greater size, the Raiders threw their weight around with some aggressive fore checking and controlled the boards on defence. Despite having two powerplays, it wasn't until the last few minutes before the Hawks

Red Hawks cont'd... pg. 21...

# DREAMS BECOME REALTY AT HOME!



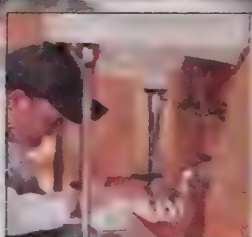
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## Red Hawks Hockey Cont'd...

... from pg. 20

finally were able to create some long series in the offensive zone. However, the period ended in a 0-0 tie.

Goalies at both sides of the ice stole the show early, and kept up the quality net minding throughout the game. Paddy Manuge played net for the Hawks, making huge saves in the first to keep it at 0-0. Manuge made a sprawling pad save on a breakaway given up on their own powerplay, and it seemed to spark the Hawks a little bit.

Things changed at the beginning of the second period as Haliburton pressured early and looked to have all the momentum.

"They had some big guys," said Yake, "but they started to slow down in the second period. The start of the second period was a kind of breaking of the ice for us."

Brett Yake lit the lamp first for the Hawks, scoring off a rebound at the end of a powerplay. He added another later in the frame during a scramble in front of the net, shortly after having a two man advantage. The Raiders thought the whistle should have blown the play dead, but the Hawks didn't wait around and went ahead 2-0.

The Raiders got some bad luck soon after when their first goal of the game was called back. During some quality cycling down low for the Raiders, Clarke managed to get the puck to cross the line after a scramble out in front of the net. Unfortunately for the Raiders, it followed right after a whistle, as the ref awarded a penalty to the Hawks, thereby nullifying the goal. The Raiders bench was livid, but got it back when they scored on that very same powerplay. The period ended in a 2-1 lead for the Hawks in a game that could have gone either way, thought the Hawks looked like the better team by this point.

In the third, Kevin Nelson scored to make it 3-1, but the Raiders refused to go away, scoring seconds later to get back to within one. In the end, the Hawks' speed proved to be a better weapon than the Raiders' size as Haliburton added two more to seal the win.

The victory has Yake feeling good about the season so far.

"We've done a good job to be where we are before Christmas Break."

On December 10th, four games before the Clarke game, the Hawks traveled to play in a tournament in Whitby. The Hawks had an impressive showing, winning their pool after posting three victories: a 4-1 and a 4-3 win over two schools from Toronto, and a tight 1-0 win against St. Theresa of Belleville.

Winning the pool meant Haliburton moved off to the playoff round. Facing off against All Saints Catholic High School from Ottawa, the Hawks found themselves in a 3-0 hole late in the third period. The Hawks managed to score two to make it close, but couldn't score the equalizer in what turned out to be a nail biter of a finish. All Saints went on to place second overall in the tournament, losing in the Finals.

"The tournament was a great way to play against some good competition before the Break, and to see where we are," said Yake. We did very well." ■

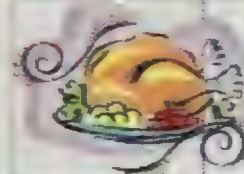
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|   | 9 |   |   | 2 |   | 7 | 6 |   |
| 8 |   |   |   |   | 3 |   |   | 2 |
| 9 |   |   |   | 6 |   |   |   | 7 |
|   |   | 3 |   | 9 |   | 1 |   |   |
|   | 4 | 2 | 5 |   |   |   | 8 |   |
| 6 |   |   | 7 |   | 9 |   |   | 1 |
|   | 7 |   |   | 1 |   |   | 4 |   |
|   |   | 8 |   | 5 |   | 3 |   |   |

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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## ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

Take this Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

**Subject: CHRISTMAS SONGS**  
Each song contains "Christmas" in the lyrics. Name the song. (e.g., "Then one foggy Christmas Eve." Answer: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.")

## FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. "On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

2. "Christmas Eve will find me where the love light gleams."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

3. "Decorations of red on a green Christmas tree won't mean a thing."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

## GRADUATE LEVEL

4. "Although it's been said many times, many ways; Merry Christmas to you."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

5. "In the air there's a feeling of Christmas."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

6. "Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

## PH.D. LEVEL

7. "Gaily they ring, while people sing, songs of good cheer, Christmas is here."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

8. "Trim my Christmas tree, with some decorations bought at Tiffany's."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

9. "Ding dong, ding dong, Christmas bells are ringing."  
Answer \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWERS:** 1. "The Twelve Days of Christmas." 2. "I'll Be Home for Christmas." 3. "Blue Christmas." 4. "The Christmas Song." 5. "Silver Bells." 6. "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen." 7. "Carol of the Bells." 8. "Santa Baby." 9. "Caroling, Caroling."

## SCORING:

18 points — congratulations, doctor; 15 to 17 points — honors graduate; 10 to 14 points — you're plenty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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## Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DECEASED RELATIVES' LETTERS  
LINK DIFFERENT GENERATIONS

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing in response to "Stuck for an Answer" (Oct. 9), whose wife found a box of letters written by her late mother to her father. She didn't know whether to read or destroy them. If Mom had wanted the letters destroyed, she would have already done it. As a genealogist and historian, my advice is to keep them in a safe place for future generations. I have correspondence between my great-great-grandmother, her daughters and their daughters that dates back to the 1870s and extends through the 1940s. I also have her diaries, her daughter's autograph book from high school graduation in 1880, and diaries written by her granddaughter that date from the time she was 16 until her death at the age of 90 in 1998. I am sure my great-great-grandfather never thought I'd be reading the letter he wrote to his brother during the Civil War in 1865, mentioning all the women in the city he was going to spend some time with! Abby, "Stuck's" wife should cherish the letters she found, even if she never reads them. They are precious heirlooms for future generations that will teach them about the impact of World War II on young love. -- HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

DEAR HISTORICALLY: I suggested to "Stuck" that reading the letters would allow his wife new insight into her parents' early life. Many readers agreed and offered personal anecdotes. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My dear friend "Zack's" father left him letters he had exchanged with Zack's mother during World War II. In one of them was the information that Zack had a half-sister in Italy! If he had not read those letters, he would never have known about this member of his family. "Stuck's" letters have survived 60 years. He can rightfully suppose that his mother-in-law saved them with the intent of passing them on. Those letters have tremendous historical significance. There are few firsthand documents like these remaining. I'm sure the World War II museum in Washington, D.C., would love to have them. Every firsthand story helps us construct our history. Can you imagine what we would have missed if 15-year-old Anne Frank's diary had remained unpublished? -- WELL-READ IN NEW YORK

DEAR ABBY: My mother asked if my sisters and I wanted to read the letters Dad had sent her during the war. We declined because we felt the letters were private. Mom requested that they be buried with her when she died. When she passed away, we could not immediately locate them. Then, just before interment, my sister found the letters. The funeral director allowed us to seal them in a box to be placed in the ground with Mom's burial urn. They are now, once again, close to her and Dad, and everyone finds that knowledge comforting. -- BEVERLY IN ALBANY

DEAR ABBY: I knew growing up that Mom kept letters from my father in her lingerie drawer. When she died in 1996, I placed them with her in her casket. When my sister-in-law asked if I had read them, I said, "Absolutely not -- they were for Mom's eyes, not mine." My advice to "Stuck" would be to destroy them. -- DONNA IN MARYLAND

DEAR ABBY: When our parents died 22 years ago, we also found letters he wrote her while in the Army. My sisters and I pored over them -- laughing, crying, learning new things about them. It allowed us a glimpse into something we never thought we would see -- our parents as a young couple, newly in love and afraid about the war. The letters are a family treasure. Of all the things we have acquired since their deaths, they remain the most precious of all. -- MARY IN PHOENIX

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Super Crossword TOOTH PASTE

Horoscopes It's in the Stars

BORN THIS WEEK: You have a gift for making people feel safe and protected. You would make an excellent youth counselor.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) The New Year brings challenges that can change many things in your life. You need to be prepared not only to confront them, but also to deal with what happens afterward.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You have what it takes to set your goals quite a bit higher this year. Learn what you need to know and put what you learn into your efforts. A partner offers loving support.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) In true Gemini Twin fashion, you're conflicted about a decision you know you'll have to make in this New Year. Best advice: Get the facts before you make any commitment.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A friend offers you an exciting opportunity for this New Year. Although your positive aspects are strong in most respects, caution is advised. Investigate before you invest.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) You can make this New Year a roaring success. Start by readjusting your goals to reflect the changes in the economy. Your den-mate offers both wise and loving support.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) The New Year brings new opportunities for change. But you need to be ready to move from the comfortable status quo to the challenging unknown. It's up to you.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your most important New Year's resolution should be to work out problems with a family member in order to avoid continuing misunderstandings. Do it soon, for both of your sakes.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The New Year has much to offer the intensely determined Scorpion, who isn't afraid to take on challenges and stay with them until they surrender their rewards.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) You'll have many fine opportunities in this New Year. But be warned: Reject offers of "help." You work best when you're free to be your own creative self.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) The New Year offers changes that you might feel you're not quite ready for. Best advice: Deal with them one step at a time, until you've built up your self-confidence.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Travel is a dominant aspect of the New Year. This could mean relocating to another city (or even another country) in connection with your education or your career.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) This New Year brings news about a change you've been anticipating. You might have a problem persuading a loved one about your new plans, but he or she will soon go along with them.

ACROSS

- 1 Self-confidence
- 7 Lady of the house
- 12 Pacific archipelago
- 16 Fit fiddle
- 19 Not as affluent
- 20 Let up
- 21 "East of Eden" character
- 22 Negligent
- 23 Start of a quip by Ogden Nash
- 25 Massachusetts
- 27 "Kind Drag" ('67 hit)
- 28 Little fox
- 29 Does some cobbling
- 31 Jannings or Gills
- 32 "Pequod" captain
- 34 Whippet or wolf
- 37 Raptor feature
- 39 Dugong, for one
- 42 Salon offering
- 43 Faint
- 44 Fashionable Emilio
- 45 Part 2 of quip

- 51 Agatha's colleague
- 52 Hardly popular
- 54 NASA affirmative
- 55 — vera
- 56 Revolt
- 58 Prop for Figaro
- 61 Make murky
- 62 Alpine area
- 63 Soccer superstar
- 64 Gounod opera
- 65 "Fantasia" frame
- 68 Part 3 of quip
- 73 Narcs' org.
- 74 Old Testament character
- 76 Jet-setter's need
- 77 Spine-tingling
- 79 Middle Eastern money
- 80 Play ground?
- 82 Cajole
- 86 Cry of dread
- 87 — Na Na
- 88 Tuscan town
- 89 Surfeit
- 90 Part 4 of quip
- 95 Prepare the champagne
- 96 Vintage

- 97 62 Across sight
- 98 Grown-up grub
- 99 Cum in or coriander
- 102 Pieces
- 103 Noisy birds
- 104 Tibia
- 105 Walker's "The Purple"
- 107 Kennel feature
- 108 Catchall abbr.
- 111 Flirt
- 113 End of quip
- 119 Burmese statesman
- 120 TV's "Life"
- 121 Early computer
- 122 Pianist Jose
- 123 Billy Williams
- 124 Scent
- 125 Musical movement
- 126 Get in shape

- 7 Actor Damon
- 8 — Dhabi
- 9 Historic org.
- 10 Had some halibut
- 11 Handel oratorio
- 12 Tale
- 13 "Dies —"
- 14 Control lever
- 15 Office-holders
- 16 Battle site of 1836
- 17 Fancy fabric
- 18 Salchow kin
- 24 Spare part?
- 26 — Aviv
- 30 "— in America" ('63 tune)
- 32 Say yes
- 33 — polloi
- 34 Proof-reader's mark
- 35 Sailed through
- 36 Tang
- 38 Orthopedists' org.
- 39 Detailed description
- 40 Continental currency
- 41 Bill of Rights grp.
- 42 Femme —
- 43 Couturier Christian
- 46 — Vicente, Brazil

- 47 Zhivago's love
- 48 Audibly
- 49 Din
- 50 Actress Burke
- 52 Long lunch?
- 53 Mighty mite
- 57 Satellite —
- 58 Wither-spoon of "Legally Blonde"
- 59 Soprano Gluck
- 60 Zuider —
- 63 Bluenose
- 64 Move like a hummingbird
- 65 Chocolate substitute
- 66 Yale or Root
- 67 Inclined
- 69 Palindromic name
- 70 Most modern
- 71 MTV viewer
- 72 Precinct
- 75 Story line
- 78 Decorates glass
- 80 Wearing saddles
- 81 Author Amy
- 82 Places
- 83 Came down to earth
- 84 Droop
- 85 Howard or Petty
- 87 Chose

- 88 Bacteriologist Jonas
- 91 Ad — committee
- 92 Repeat
- 93 Mitty's creator
- 94 Harrison's "Star Wars" role
- 95 Dodger Ron
- 98 Good name for a raccoon
- 99 Radiated
- 100 Stimulate
- 101 Shiba — (Japanese dog)
- 102 Weather word
- 103 Roast beef au —
- 104 Move quickly
- 106 Football Hall of Famer Jim
- 107 Puerto —
- 108 To be, to Baudelaire
- 109 Forbidden
- 110 Overcharge
- 112 Inflatable item?
- 114 Lennon's widow
- 115 Canterbury can
- 116 "I've been —"
- 117 Ike's domain
- 118 Sister

DOWN

- 1 Lhasa —
- 2 Magic-show sound
- 3 — Linda, CA
- 4 Zinc or copper
- 5 Ran into
- 6 NBC newscaster

|     |    |    |     |     |    |     |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |
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| 119 |    |    |     |     |    | 120 |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |     |     | 122 |     |
| 123 |    |    |     |     |    | 124 |     |    |    |     |    |    |    |     |     | 126 |     |

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## Sports Reporter Wanted

Sadly (for us) our ace sports reporter Matthew Flowers returns to school full time in the new year, so

**The County Voice needs an energetic, enthusiastic, part-time sports reporter to cover the wide variety of Haliburton County's High School and amateur Sports.**

Please Fax your resume to 705-457-5004 or Email to [editor@countyvoice.ca](mailto:editor@countyvoice.ca) or call 457-5001 and ask for Stephen - or mail to Box 930 Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0 or drop in resume to office - Lower level of Stedman's Mall in Haliburton.

Haliburton County's Local Weekly Newspaper

**County Voice .ca**

Our thanks to Matthew for the great coverage during his time off of school. We will miss you and we wish you all the success in your continuing studies.

## Coming Events

### Great Christmas Gift!

The Haliburton Concert Series brings renowned performers to the Northern Lights Pavilion every year. And the 2010 lineup is very exciting:  
May 1: Canadian pianist Lucille Chung, acclaimed by Gramophone magazine;  
Sept. 11: The international sensation Quartetto Gelato Ensemble; and May 11: Made in-Canada, Canada's hot new piano chamber quartet.

Subscriptions now on sale:  
3 concerts for just \$50. Students \$25.  
Ask about our great-value family pack \$125.  
Call Brenda Robinson at 457-2695 or  
e-mail [brobinson@interhop.net](mailto:brobinson@interhop.net)

## HARCOURT COMMUNITY CHAPEL Presents...

**Don't Miss These Events!!**

**Sunday, December 20th at 7:00pm**  
Carols and Candles  
Mostly Music  
Special Christmas Service

**Thursday, December 31st at 9:00pm - 12:00pm**  
NEW YEARS EVE PROGRAM  
See In The New Year!!!  
Music, Skits, Puppets etc.  
Refreshments

**Party with a difference!**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 705-448CARE (2273)**

**Thank You**

## Help Wanted

### Full Time Sales Position

**County Voice .ca**

The County Voice is seeking a full time sales rep for the newspaper. Must be outgoing and have own vehicle. Salary plus commission. A great opportunity with a fast growing company. Incentive bonus opportunities as well.  
Call 457-5001 to schedule interview. Or send resume to Box 98, Haliburton Ont. K0M 1S0. Or fax 457-5004. Or drop in at our office at Lower Level Stedman's Mall in Haliburton.

## DEATH NOTICES



### Robert Dean McDonald

Peacefully at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket on Thursday evening, December 10, 2009 at the age of 69. Beloved husband of Louise McDonald (nee Hillock) for over 49 years. Loving father of Lori (Dwayne Lloyd) of Haliburton and Sheila McDonald of Charlottetown, PEI. Loving Poppa of Miranda (Jeff Tretheway), Amy (Jeremy Darby), Kyler Tomassetti and Graeme and Austin Lloyd. Great Poppa to Brennan and Madisyn and Cameron. Brother of Alan McDonald. Predeceased by his parents Margaret and Bert McDonald.

#### Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends are invited to visit with the family at TRINITY UNITED CHURCH 290 Muskoka Road North, Gravenhurst, Ontario on Tuesday afternoon, December 15, 2009 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service will be held at TRINITY UNITED CHURCH on Wednesday morning, December 16, 2009 at 11 o'clock. Rev. Kathleen Mowat officiating. Interment later Mickle Memorial Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or South Muskoka Hospital Foundation would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209.

[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)

## The Minden Health Care Auxiliary

would like to Thank, Business and individuals who helped us in our efforts throughout 2009.

*Thank You*

### Huge Thank you to "Cottage Dreams"

On Thursday November 26th, I had the opportunity with my husband to attend an appreciation night put on by the organization Cottage Dreams. This was to thank the many volunteers and donors who graciously donate their cottages, time and donations to Cottage Dreams, who then arrange to send cancer survivors for a Dream Holiday with their family. I am neither a volunteer nor a donor of a cottage, I am a Cancer Survivor who received my Cottage Dream holiday, a new outlook on life and reconnected with my family. My husband and I along with my brothers and sister and their significant others, spent 5 glorious days in Ahmic Harboe on Magnetewan River. It was fantastic. I was asked to say a few words at this meeting about my experience with battling and defeating this cancer and to let people know how great this organization is in helping people, not only to fulfill their dreams, but to get reacquainted with one another. We are all so grateful. Therefore, I would like from the bottom of my heart to thank you for the wonderful job this organization is doing and to all donors, volunteers and everyone involved. A big hug to Debbie, Donna, Becky and Sheana. Keep up the Good Work! Again from all of us... Thank you... Thank you... Thank you.

Leona, Marcel and family



# County Voice *Easy to Read* Classifieds

Deadline for Classifieds is every Monday at noon

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Coulms. (TFN)

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RETRIEVER BELIEVER?  
Golden Rescue, The  
Canadian Golden Retriever  
Adoption Service Inc.  
URGENTLY needs foster  
homes, vet services, "forever"  
homes, donations, members,  
fundraisers/volunteers. Help  
us care for this magnificent  
breed. Anything you can do  
would be greatly appreciated.  
For information please  
contact us at 1-866-712-8444  
or visit [www.golden-rescue.net](http://www.golden-rescue.net). (TFN)

## Help Wanted

FULL AND PART-TIMERS  
NEEDED - If I could show  
you how to make \$500-  
\$1000 a month part time,  
working 4-6 hours per week  
would you be interested? We  
train, your hours, work from  
home, no bosses. Call for an  
appointment, evenings and  
weekends okay. Call 705-  
488-2727. (Jan D)

## For Rent

HOUSE FOR RENT - Two  
bedroom fully furnished  
house, all electric heat - 4  
piece bath. Call 705-489-  
2550. (TFN)

## For Rent

## FOR RENT

\$890/m +utilities 3 bedroom home  
w/attached garage conveniently  
located off County Rd 21 between  
Haliburton and Minden villages.

**457-3414**

## Announcements

### 4C's LILY ANN

Cannot receive clothing or items during the  
weeks of December 11<sup>th</sup> through to  
January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

Due to preparing and distributing  
CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE.

We thank you for your ongoing support.  
May everyone have A BLESSED CHRISTMAS.

## For Rent

FOR RENT - Commercial  
space to rent, 152 Highland  
Street - 582sqft, suitable for  
office or rental, overlooks  
Head Lake Call Michael  
Easton at 705-457-5143,  
or e-mail [measton3@sympatico.ca](mailto:measton3@sympatico.ca). (TFN)

LOT FOR RENT - In over  
55 mobile home Park in Lake  
Bonnet Village, Avon Park/  
Sebring area. Will take a  
40ft unit. Check out the park  
at [www.lakebonnetvillage.com](http://www.lakebonnetvillage.com), or call Gloria at 705-  
754-2548 for details. (TFN)

FOR RENT - Large two  
bedroom apartment, den  
and parking, 1/2km from  
The Independent Grocer.  
First and last, reference all  
required. One small animal  
is okay, no smoking. \$660.00  
per month plus utilities. Call  
705-457-2434. (TFN)

FOR RENT - One bedroom  
apartment suitable for  
professional couple/single,  
all inclusive, fully furnished,  
10 minutes to Haliburton,  
walk to all amenities. No  
pets or smoking. Available  
immediately, call 705-754-  
9033. (Dec C)

FOR RENT - Storage space  
available. Call 705-286-  
0343. (TFN)

FOR RENT - Four bedroom  
home in Ingoldsby, child  
friendly neighborhood. Wood  
and electric heat. Available  
February 1st, 2010. \$750.00  
plus utilities. First and last  
required, no smoking, no  
pets. Please call 705-286-  
2900. (Dec C)

## For Rent

FOR RENT - On 12 Mile  
Lake, 2 bedroom cottage,  
\$900/month, includes heat,  
hydro, satellite television,  
garbage removal, parking  
and coin laundry. Call Lori at  
705-489-3739. (DecC)

FOR RENT - Two bedroom  
apartment just outside  
Minden, \$600/month plus  
hydro. Available December  
1st, 2009. Call 705-457-  
5597. (DecC)

## For Sale

NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC  
SYSTEMS. 30 Years of  
experience in Minden and  
Haliburton area. We take care  
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Fully licensed, health unit  
inspected. Call for a free  
estimate, Brent Colman  
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705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-  
8711 (TFN)

FOR SALE - Honda ATV  
350cc 4x4 (2005), excellent  
condition, has winch - Like  
new, call 705-286-2208.  
(TFN)

FOR SALE - Schwank oil  
space heater 65000BTUH  
\$300.00, electric cook  
stove 30' \$100.00, vanity  
with top 24" \$30.00, flush  
toilet \$20.00, apartment  
size washer and dryer 120v  
\$30.00, call 705-457-2433.  
(TFN)

FOR SALE - 1997 Arctic  
Cat ZRT600 snowmobile,  
excellent condition, tripe  
cylinder. \$2000.00 - B/O.  
Call 705-754-2145 or 705-  
878-7091. (Dec C)

FOR SALE - 3 IKEA chairs  
with cushions new, \$149.00  
now \$50.00 each. Black and  
white cushions. 4 Captain  
pine chairs \$100.00, and a  
24 in electric stove. Call 705-  
754-2548. (TFN)

## For Sale

FOR SALE - Simmons Twin  
Mattress, Box Spring, Frame  
and Pine or Maple Head  
Board. Occasionally used.  
Asking \$100 or best offer to  
a local charity of your choice.  
Please call 489-3685. (Dec  
C)

FOR SALE - 1996 Skandic  
Ski-Doo - 2 up - electric  
reverse- tow hitch - new  
carbides/sliders, 5700kms -  
mint condition -ready to go,  
\$2200.00 -B/O, Call 705-  
455-2220. (Dec B)

FOR SALE - Snow tires 3  
new size 205/60 15 \$280.00.  
Car roof/top and closed  
carrier, lockable, w/hardware,  
used once, \$140.00. Call 705-  
447-9900. (TFN)

FOR FREE - Sofa/light  
colour - 2 seats - Free. Call  
705-286-4783. (DecE)

FOR SALE - 2001 Kodiak  
SE 400, winch, new wind  
shield, reg. storage box, good  
condition, asking \$4200 B/O.  
1986 Yamaha Moto 4 350  
Hi-low range, good condition  
\$2300 B/O. Call 705-448-  
1023. (Dec C)

FOR SALE - 1998 Dodge  
4x4 - 5 speed trans - \$1750 as  
is. Happy Daze Automotive  
705-286-8473. (Dec B)

FOR SALE - 1999 Cavalier  
Z24, only 95000kms - auto -  
A/C - etc. \$1995.00 certified.  
Happy Daze Automotive 705-  
286-8473. (Dec C)

FOR SALE - Piano, pull-out  
bed, chest of drawers, desk.  
Call Mo at 705-457-1728.  
(Dec C)

FOR SALE - Medigas wheel  
chair - left leg support- 2yrs  
old, was \$2500, sell for \$500.  
Call 705-489-3746. (Jan A)

## For Sale

FOR SALE - Two snow tires  
like new 13" also 13" rims  
\$175.00 all in, ultra-matic  
adjustable bed w/ remote -  
clean- like new, \$1500 B/O.  
Commode \$40.00 - like new.  
(Dec D)

FOR SALE - Hospital bed -  
mattress never used - moves  
up and down - including bed  
rails. \$500.00. - Wheel chair-  
push-tilts down- all features  
included, \$600.00. Commode  
(no lifting required), Free.  
705-286-3749. (Dec D)

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For any and all odd jobs.  
What can we do for you?  
Email [oddjobjack@yahoo.ca](mailto:oddjobjack@yahoo.ca)(TFN))

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3664 or visit [www.mrradon.ca](http://www.mrradon.ca) (TFN)

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1-888-212-7543 or 705-286-  
1581. (Dec E)



### Township of Algonquin Highlands ROADS DEPARTMENT

#### Employment Opportunity Full-Time Position

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is looking for a full-time Operator with heavy equipment experience to assist with all aspects of municipal road maintenance and construction. The ideal candidate will be physically fit as manual labour is an important part of the job.

The successful applicant must have a Class DZ drivers licence (AZ preferred) with a clean driving abstract along with a proven ability to operate heavy equipment such as motor grader, tandem dump with plow/sander and loader/backhoe.

Employees are required to be energetic, cooperative, customer service oriented individuals who take pride in their work and have a demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and with a crew. Dependability is a MUST as is the availability to work outside of regular hours including weekends and evenings.

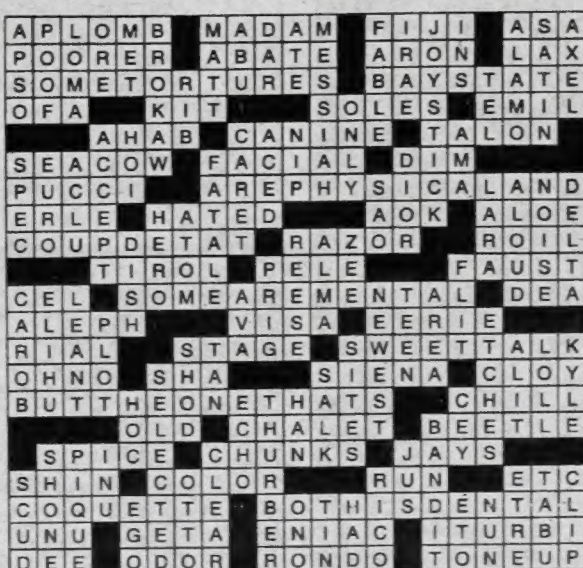
A detailed job description is available online at [www.algonquinhighlands.ca](http://www.algonquinhighlands.ca) or upon request.

The Township of Algonquin Highlands offers a friendly and busy work environment. Interested parties are invited to submit their resumés to the address below no later than 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, January 8, 2010.**

Township of Algonquin Highlands  
1123 North Shore Rd.  
Minden, ON K0M 2K0  
ATT: Mr. Brian Whetstone CRS-S  
Manager of Operations

We thank all applicants and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

This personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used to determine eligibility for potential employment.





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Complete with 2.4 litre engine, automatic transmission, air conditioning, AM/FM/CD stereo, driver & passenger front air bags, driver & passenger front body side air bags, front & rear side curtain air bags, tilt & telescopic steering, On-Star system, 3 year/60,000 kilometre GM Total Warranty with Roadside Assistance and 5 year/160,000 kilometre powertrain warranty and much more!!

**Plus**  
**Another \$1,000.00**  
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Front-Wheel-Drive Vibes also available  
**Come on in for a test drive in the snow**  
**today - get one before they are all gone!**

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\*\* \$1,000.00 excludes all taxes.

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Leigh Bull Bob Johnston Bob Bullock

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## Keep your pet safe this holiday. Here are some dangers to avoid.

By Dr. Carol Sanio, Minden Animal Hospital

Wrapped Christmas chocolates placed under the tree may be ferreted out by the family dog, unwrapped and eaten when you are not home. Chocolate contains theobromide which can cause heart arrhythmias. There is up to 7 times as much chocolate in dark or baking chocolate as compared to milk chocolate. Besides life threatening heart problems at toxic doses, chocolate can cause intestinal upset, hyperactivity and seizures. In a small dog of 10 lb, the toxic dose of the baking chocolate can be as small as 1/4 oz. Other candies can also cause vomiting and diarrhea or pain in the abdomen and inappetence. Keep them up and in dog proof containers.

Christmas trees cut and brought into the home to decorate for the holidays is a tradition that has been around for years. It is hard for a dog that goes out and urinates on trees outdoors to understand that when trees come indoors he can no longer do that. It is best to keep the animals away from trees and all the goodies underneath it. The water in the tree holder will have leaching from the tree and likely quite a load of bacteria as you could find in most stagnant water. Drinking of this water needs to be discouraged. The bottom 1/3 or 1/2 of the tree is most available to the pets so should have sparse decorations and safe ones just in case they are knocked off or ingested. Pinecones and other natural items make good decorations at the bottom of the tree.

Tinsel is mostly passé now but in case you still use it, you need to keep it far away from the cats in the house as they often play with it then ingest it. It will literally saw holes in the intestines after wrapping around the tongue and swallowing the rest. It is called a string foreign body but is worse than string in that it is also sharp.

Be sure to secure the tree so it cannot be pulled down or toppled. Spraying the tree with bitter apple might deter pets from chewing at the tree but barriers like baby gates may prove more effective.

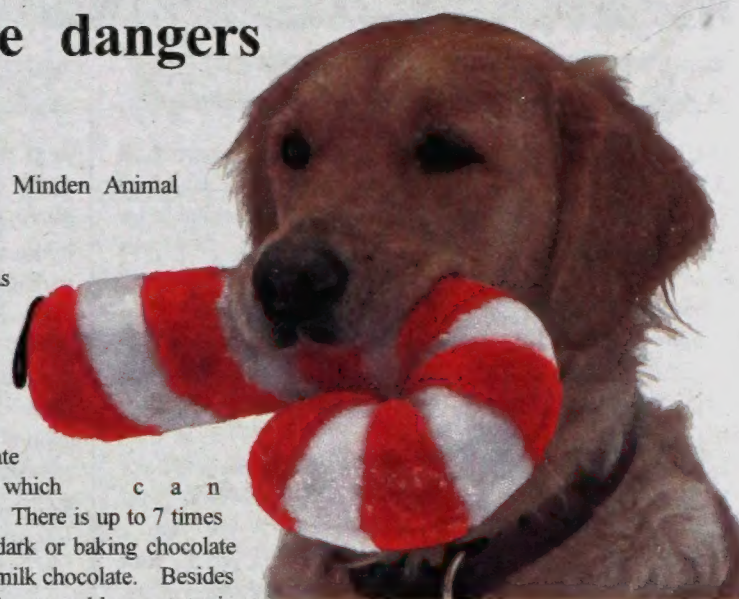
Lets talk turkey. Dogs that eat food from the table can have vomiting and diarrhea especially if eating high fat foods, not to mention learning begging behaviors that can be hard to break. The pancreas can become inflamed after a high fat meal of gravy and turkey and potatoes especially when the animal is not used to eating such foods. If quite inflamed, we call it pancreatitis. Dogs and cats can become quite ill with this causing constant vomiting, and can require hospitalization and IV fluids. Cooked turkey bones splinter and may cause great damage to the intestines including life threatening peritonitis, or obstruction. Dogs like to visit the garbage and eat the tastiest of what we throw out. I have seen large

dogs come in with a stomach full of the string wrapping from around a roast. It is not very digestible. It goes without saying that alcohol can cause harm to pets as well, do not leave unattended beverages at dog height.

It is always best to keep your pets on their regular food during the holidays. Buy them some safe dental treats or ones from the dog bakery, the Barkery, and give them as a treat at the Christmas meal instead. They keep them happily occupied for a while.

Now that we have snow, we also have salt. The chemical on the roads and sidewalks can irritate or burn the sensitive pads on the dogs. Water will dissolve them usually so wiping the paws with a warm cloth on the way in is useful. Ice balls on the feet can be removed this way as well. If you remove it, the pet is less likely to lick and chew and ingest the chemicals. Booties are great if you can find some that fit and your dog tolerates them.

Keep your pet safe for the holidays. Have a Merry Christmas. ■



Help us reach our \$100,000 Holiday Goal to invest in equipment and technology for the health care facilities and hospitals in Haliburton County. Each donation also helps decorate our trees in the lobbies

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# Spectacular Stella Launches

"I hadn't seen Tommy since my 20s so when he found out that I was still illustrating books his ears pricked up and that's how I met Janet" explains Marion Hill, the illustrator of Spectacular Stella, a new children's book written by Janet Stobie. Janet was looking for an illustrator for her most recent children's book and after several attempts dried up it seemed as though the search to find one was going sour. Then, her husband Tommy met his old neighbour Marion at a funeral. Marion explains that "I was talking to the minister and he asked if I was still illustrating books: Tommy overheard and he introduced me to Janet." Marion and Tommy lived on the same street when they were years ago younger. Marion always kept in touch with Tommy's mother over the years and it was only recently that they met again. Marion and Janet came together at the RD Lawrence Centre on December 5th to discuss their partnership and the book.

Janet Stobie hasn't always been a writer: early in her career she a Church minister where she crafted her talent



after telling stories at her church services. "I wanted people to listen and not get bored, it ended up being a complete success and people said I should put my stories into writing. It was never my intention to become a published writer" laughs Janet. Janet is now retired so she could concentrate on her writing. Janet says that she "reads a lot, I enjoy mystery stories though I find myself lately becoming more picky over which ones I read because of the violence." Janet is currently working on a coming of age novel about a young girl and her father and how they cope with their grief after they lose a family member.

Spectacular Stella follows the story of a star that loses its way and how it takes on the role to be the Christmas star. A perfect last minute Christmas present for a little



Marion Hill with Janet Stobie

one in your family. The author has also written 'Can I Hold Him?' a collection of Christmas stories for all ages. They are sold at Masters bookshop and Rails End gallery. Janet began writing Spectacular Stella as a Christmas gift for her grandchildren "I woke up with the story and sat down to write it immediately. My husband would draw funny little pictures to go with the words and the kids really enjoyed it."

Marion says that she is a self taught illustrator, she was one of the original artists who founded the studio tour in Haliburton and although she doesn't take part in the tour anymore she teaches drawing at Cambridge United Church. She like Janet wrote stories with accompanying pictures as books for her grandchildren. She adds that "although they are all grown up now I'm sure they still treasure them, they used to love them." Marion says that she "is primarily focused upon landscapes and floral paintings, I was just helping Janet out it wasn't something I was looking to do." It took Marion three weeks to illustrate the book, "I worked every night and luckily Janet allowed me to free hand the pictures so I had a lot of reign over it all so it worked out really well."

Janets' books can also be purchased on her blog at [www.revjantheauthor.blogspot.com](http://www.revjantheauthor.blogspot.com). ■



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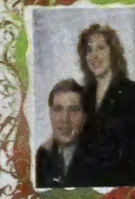
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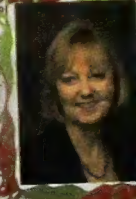
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wish to extend  
Season's Greetings to all.**

**With donations from, friends, family and our agents we were able to donate \$211. to the Christmas Food Bank Drive. As a result of our participation in the Minden Santa Clause Parade, and the generosity of the people along the parade route, we were able to donate \$148. to the Minden Food Bank, Thanks to all who donated and attended the parade.**

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